

## Former Italian foreign minister jailed

VENICE (AFP) — Italy's former Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis was sentenced Friday to four years in prison for corruption and illegal financial dealings. A Venetian court handed down the sentence for the former socialist minister as part of Italy's anti-corruption campaign. A former Christian Democratic minister of transport, Carlo Bernini, was also sentenced to three years and seven months in prison for similar crimes. The rulings are still to be confirmed by an appeals court. Mr. De Michelis, who held the chief diplomatic post from 1989 to 1992, was found to have received 405 million lire (\$240,000) from firms involved in the construction of a highway from Venice to Padua and the feeder route to Venice's airport. Mr. Bernini was sentenced for obtaining 500 million lire (\$312,000) from public works companies engaged in government contracts. The two men were also ordered to remain out of public office for five years. A Venetian prosecutor began inquiries in 1991 after suspecting a pact between the Socialist and Christian Democratic political parties to accept bribes from public contractors.

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## Arafat in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat arrived Friday for talks with Egypt's foreign minister on a meeting a deadline for expanding Palestinian authority in the West Bank. "We hope to reach an agreement on July 25," Mr. Arafat told reporters at the Cairo airport. Mr. Arafat met Mr. Musa later Friday. He was expected to leave Egypt on Saturday. In Athens, earlier in today, Mr. Arafat won Greek government and European Union backing for a deal to extend autonomy to the West Bank, diplomatic sources said. Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and Foreign Minister Carlos Papoulias confirmed their support for the deal which was agreed last Tuesday in Gaza by Mr. Arafat and Israel Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

## 25% of Mogadishu children starving

PARIS (AFP) — Twenty-five per cent of the youngest children in Mogadishu are starving and in need of immediate food aid, the French humanitarian organisation International Action Against Hunger said Friday. In a communiqué released here, the organisation described the figure — based on a sample of 1,800 children under the age of five — as "worrying," and "five times more than the tolerance threshold." It said the situation had continued to deteriorate, as a similar study conducted in November 1994 showed a 10 per cent rate of acute malnutrition. Malnutrition affects both children living in Mogadishu as well as those in camps in the capital. These children, whose weight is at least 20 per cent below the norm, are in danger and need immediate food aid, the report said.

## Bomb wounds two Israeli soldiers

BEIRUT (R) — Two Israeli soldiers were wounded on Friday when guerrillas detonated a roadside bomb amid their motorised patrol in South Lebanon, pro-Israeli sources said. They said the blast occurred when the patrol was between the villages of Deir Al Shiyah and Al Taybeh inside Israel's South Lebanon occupation zone. In Beirut, Hizbullah issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attack. Later, guerrillas fired several Katyusha rockets into the outskirts of Al Taybeh. No one was hurt in the rocket attack, the pro-Israeli sources said.

## Major's popularity boosted — poll

LONDON (AFP) — Prime Minister John Major's popularity and that of his Tory party has been boosted by his decision to confront his critics and seek re-elections, according to a Gallup poll published in Friday's Daily Telegraph.

By the end of the 12-day contest precipitated by bitter attacks from his party's Eurosceptic wing, Mr. Major's personal rating stood at 27 per cent, up seven points and higher than it has been at almost any time since September 1992. The poll put the opposition Labour Party at 57 per cent (down 2.5 per cent), the Conservatives at 25.5 (up 5.5 per cent) and The Liberal Democrats at 13 per cent (down 1.5 per cent). The survey was conducted before Mr. Major's victory over former Welsh Secretary John Redwood in the Tory leadership contest on Tuesday.

A three-hour search of the animal — after it was unable to stop bleeding after being called to Liverpool University's Animal

surgeon's office —

and the valuable fur of its owner, Chris

Trotter, was recovered.

The Times said the

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## Iran port becomes smuggling hotspot

**BANDAR ABBAS (AP)** — A major industrial port in southern Iran has become a centre for smuggling, with contraband flooding in from a free-trade Gulf island and the United Arab Emirates.

Despite a recent crackdown on smuggling, dozens of tonnes of consumer goods such as audio-visual equipment and cigarettes are sailed daily across the Gulf from Dubai 150 kilometres away and unloaded illegally at the port town of Bandar Abbas before being distributed throughout Iran.

Many more goods are also transported by small boats from the Iranian Gulf island of Qeshm, a free-trade zone, to the mainland and dumped in Bandar Abbas.

"You have to be courageous, know the shoreline and have connections in the police force before you can transit the goods," said Ghaseem, a merchant in Bandar Abbas bazaar.

In a region plagued with high unemployment, hundreds of inhabitants from the port including many women rush to the shore every morning to get on waiting boats which shuttle them to and from Qeshm.

They are allowed to buy up to \$80 worth of goods and bring them back to Bandar Abbas after paying tax, which has also created a thriving legal trade.

They generally travel in large groups to be able to buy in bulk and sell the goods on at Bandar Abbas bazaar.

"There are no activities here to attract people besides smuggling and trafficking. But even that is becoming riskier every day," Ghaseem said.

The authorities have sharply curbed imports and stepped up the fight against smuggling in a bid to prevent the outflow of foreign currency and save money to pay back \$35 billion in short and medium-term debt to foreign countries.

Smuggling of goods and hard currency costs the country between three to five billion dollars each year, according to official estimates.

## Rabin: extremist rabbis should be called ayatollahs

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin assailed a group of American rabbis who have urged religious Jews to rebel against his government in an attempt to derail peace accords with Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"I hear strange cries from a small group of rabbis in the United States," Mr. Rabin told the *Davar* daily in an interview published Friday. "Maybe the name 'ayatollahs' fits them better than rabbis."

"I'm talking about a very small group of rabbis, not about American rabbis in general," Mr. Rabin added.

The word "ayatollah," a title used by Shiite Muslim clerics in Iran, has become synonymous in Israel with religious and political fanaticism.

Mr. Rabin apparently was referring to several dozen orthodox rabbis who met in New York last month to discuss Israel's agreements with the PLO.

The rabbis attacked Mr. Rabin, saying he had no right to give up "parts of the Biblical land of Israel."

The rabbis urged religious Israelis not to obey govern-

ment instructions concerning a future troop withdrawal in the West Bank and the possible uprooting of Jewish settlements, *Davar* said.

Israel and the PLO are negotiating an accord on a troop pullout from West Bank towns. The agreement is to be signed by July 25 and the withdrawal is likely to take place in the fall.

Israeli newspapers reported Friday that there was growing concern among military commanders that religious soldiers would refuse to carry out orders.

The West Bank army commander, Major General Ilan Biran, met last week with a leading hawkish rabbi, Avraham Shapira, to find out whether he planned to issue a religious ruling barring observant soldiers from participating in dismantling West Bank bases, the *Haaretz* daily said.

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SUDANESE MESSAGE: Iraqi President Saddam Hussein (right) receives the Sudanese minister of mining and energy, Salabuddin Mohammad Al Karrar, who delivered a message from Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir on the latest developments at the Sudanese-Egyptian border (AFP photo)

## U.S. remains firmly opposed to easing Iraq sanctions

**WASHINGTON** — State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Thursday the United States will do whatever it has to do to prevent the United Nations Security Council from easing sanctions against Iraq next week.

While Mr. Burns refused to use the word "veto," a senior U.S. official left no doubt that the United States, one of the five permanent members of the Security Council, will exercise its veto if the issue is pushed to a vote in the council, Russia and France and perhaps China and other nations are known to favour easing sanctions against Iraq, the official noted.

"They haven't done nearly enough to warrant a lifting of the sanctions by the United Nations, and certainly the United States will adhere to that position when this question comes before the U.N. Security Council on July 12," the spokesman declared.

The United States believes that U.N. Security Council resolution 688 sanctions should continue until Iraq forsakes "terrorism," abandons its attempts to acquire and produce nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, ceases repression of its own citizens, and accounts for 600 to 700 Kuwaitis and others who are missing from the time of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, he said.

Although he praised the work of Rolf Ekens, chairman of the U.N. Special Commission on Iraq, Mr. Burns said the United States is looking at Iraq's "admission of guilt" that it had a biological weapons program "with a great deal of scepticism."

"We aren't naive," the spokesman said. "For four years now, under repeated questioning by the international community, Iraq insisted that it did not have biological weapons, and now it says it did."

What happened to the 17 tonnes of biological growth material that Ekens reported is missing?" Mr. Burns asked. "Did Iraq ever attempt to create delivery vehicles for the biological weapons that it now says it was producing before the outbreak of the Gulf war in 1990 and 1991?

"We have said repeatedly we are concerned about Iraq's failure to comply with all of these relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions," the spokesman said. "And before there can be a serious discussion of modifying the sanctions regime, Iraq needs to demonstrate compliance with all of the relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions, not just on weapons of mass destruction."

He said Ambassador Madeleine Albright, the U.S. permanent representative to the U.N., said it well July 5: "A la carte compliance by Iraq is simply not an acceptable way to proceed."

If Iraq wants to be treated as a responsible member of the international community, it must comply with all of relevant resolutions, he said.

"It's not just a question of doing or saying the right thing on biological weapons.

"It is one thing to say after four years of international prodding that you now admit your guilt. It's quite another to explain what happened to the growth material," Mr. Burns said. "Were they developing delivery vehicles for biological weapons that could have killed millions of people? These are very serious questions. They cannot be disregarded simply because the Iraqis have made what I would say is a self-serving statement about their past culpability on biological weapons," the spokesman said.

"We'll have to see what other nations think and what they say when the issue of sanctions comes up again

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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and other members of the Royal family, Friday pray before the tomb of the late King Talal Ben Abdullah. Prince Hassan read Al Fatiha and laid a wreath of flowers on the tomb. (Petra photo)

## Jordan, Egypt to discuss trade Talks to focus on commodity diversification

AMMAN (Petra) -- The Jordanian-Egyptian Joint Economic Committee will hold a meeting in Amman next week to discuss trade exchanges, according to an announcement Friday.

The four-day meeting will be co-chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb and his Egyptian counterpart, Mahmoud Mahmoud, is expected to draft ways to diversify the commodities exchanged between the two countries, the statement said.

The Egyptian-Jordanian trade meeting follows talks held in Cairo by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Khaled Karaki.

of goods in both directions and increasing the volume of trade.

According to the statement, the talks will be preceded by a preparatory meeting in Amman between Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Smadi and his Egyptian counterpart, Fakhri Abul Izz, who is due to arrive in Amman today at the head of an Egyptian team.

The Egyptian-Jordanian trade meeting follows talks held in Cairo by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Khaled Karaki.



Ali Abul Ragheb

### Initial pullback to cover 3%.

(Continued from page 1)

build the settlement, to be called Kfar Oranim, a year before it fell in the 1992 general elections.

A private construction company had been hired to carry out the work in the area, which is close to several other settlements, said Mr. Dmeh.

The move was likely to bring an angry response from people who aspire to stability, security and peace based on justice to work together for the attainment of these goals.

Participants also called on specialised Islamic institutes in the Arab World to undertake detailed research and initiate firm academic traditions for the study of the various religions and cultures, particularly the Western culture and to build dialogue with it on equal basis.

Participants proposed one of the following three topics for discussion during next year's (11th) session of the academy. The topics include

— Horizons and Challenges of the Future, Islam and Universal Issues and Islam and the Issue of Change.

### Respect for all rights

(Continued from page 1)

Islam, noting that they are either hostile or supportive. Consequently, they said, the appropriate climate is available for introducing facts about Islam and for inviting people to follow its righteous path and for calling on all peoples who aspire to stability, security and peace based on justice to work together for the attainment of these goals.

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### Iraq demands end to incursion

(Continued from page 1)

The Iraqi spokesman said Baghdad had explained to the Turkish government that the risks stemming from the "abnormal condition in northern Iraq" could be dealt with only through cooperation with the central government in Baghdad and ending "colonial intervention in the region."

Settlers began clearing the land on Tuesday ready for the construction of 600 homes, said Aharon Domb, spokesman for the settler's West Bank and Gaza Strip council.

The site is close to Karabita, two kilometres from the old green line which separated Israel and the West Bank before the 1967 Middle East war.

Under the redeployment project, the army and Palestinian police may mount joint patrols to maintain security in certain areas.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed times and places with the concerned institutions.

#### FILM

\* Japanese film with Arabic subtitles, entitled "Hearts and Flowers for the Sake of Tura," at the Samir Rifai Auditorium of the University of Jordan, at 5:30 p.m.

#### POETRY RECITAL

\* By poet Hazem Mubeidin at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 7:00 p.m.

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* Paintings by Adnan Yahya at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Luweibdeh.

\* Paintings by Bernard Gerges and Rita Gerges, entitled, "Lebanon Tomorrow," at the Royal Cultural Centre.

\* Paintings by Jordanian Artist Muhammad Majali at the Phoenix Gallery of Culture and Art.

\* Works by Iraqi artist Tahia Al Hakim at Ab'ad Art Gallery.

\* Exhibition demonstrating the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

\* Works by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfali Gallery.

## Karaki returns from Cairo meeting on cooperation in information areas

Amman (Petra) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Khalid Karaki Friday returned to Amman after attending the ordinary session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Information, which concluded in Cairo Thursday.

While in Cairo Dr Karaki discussed with his Egyptian counterpart, Safwat Sharif, means of enhancing bilateral relations in the information field.

In an arrival statement, Dr Karaki said the main objectives of the council's meeting was to crystallise a position defining the new Arab information language, and working out a pan-Arab information strategy.

The strategy presented to the council was promising, Dr Karaki said, adding that many issues on the council's agenda were approved.

He described the meeting's atmosphere as positive and boding well for future cooperation in the field of Arab information work, because Arab information issues are complicated and intricate, given the new challenges posed by the information and communication revolution.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Khalid Karaki Friday returns to Amman after participating in an Arab ministers of information meeting in Cairo.

Publication-related issues.

Of his talks with Mr. Sharif, Dr Karaki said he discussed a mechanism for the implementation of the information aspects of the Joint Higher Jordanian-Egyptian Committee meetings, and that a link has been re-established between the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and the Egyptian Middle East News Agency.

Others agreed to unify their voice, but that they respect diversity, privacy and national interest.

On bilateral meetings with other Arab information ministers, Dr Karaki said Jordan maintains unique relations with most Arab countries, noting that there is close cooperation between radio and television stations and news agencies, press and

## VTC workshop looks to expand personnel training in tourism sector

AQABA (Petra) -- The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) plans to expand its training programmes in hotel management and the tourism sector to meet the growing needs for qualified personnel in this industry, particularly as tourism to Jordan is expected to witness a boom because of the signing of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, according to engineer Ali Nasrallah, VTC director general.

Addressing the opening session of a workshop held in Aqaba on Jordan's personnel needs in the tourism industry, Mr Nasrallah said that the VTC has recently set up a hotel training centre and a small hotel for the port city of Aqaba.

The VTC has redirected its priorities towards hotel management and tourism, Mr Nasrallah said.

Plans are to increase the number of students taking general vocational training courses rather than academic training to at least 39 per cent male students and 20 per cent female students by the end of this year, added Mr Nasrallah.

Previously the Hotel Management Institute was the only institution providing such training. But in the past five years the VTC opened 12 centres offering training courses in hotel management, according to Mr Nasrallah.

The workshop was opened by the president of the Aqaba Region Authority, Fayez Khasawneh, who said that the meeting was

designed to determine the training needs in the tourism industry in Aqaba, ways of developing tourism services and overcoming impediments to such development.

The workshop was organised by the VTC in cooperation with the Holiday Hotel.



Jordanian produce on sale at a local Amman market

## South Korea seeks harsh punishments for store disaster

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's cabinet took steps Friday to impose harsh punishment on those responsible for last week's collapse of a Seoul department store in which more than 400 people are feared killed.

A government official said the cabinet approved a bill to allow life imprisonment for people whose actions resulted in shoddy construction which led to the loss of human lives. Another bill calls for a maximum of 10 years in jail for anyone found responsible for non-fatal accidents.

"The bill were passed today at cabinet level. It is likely to go through a special National Assembly session early next week," a parliamentary official said.

Under current law, courts can jail up to five years or fine up to 50 million won (\$65,790) a person found responsible of neglect resulting in substandard construction work or inspection.

Relatives of those reported missing in the June 29 collapse of the Sampoong Department Store have demanded owner Lee Joon be punished harshly.

Mr. Lee, his son and two others have been arrested on charges of criminal negligence which resulted in the collapse.

Prosecutors questioned Friday more city officials suspected of taking bribes to allow illegal renovation work at the collapsed store, where the death toll now stands at 142 with 288 missing.

Communist North Korea, making its first comment on the disaster, said the collapse was the symptom of a corrupt, ailing and incompetent social system.

"The accident... is a man-made disaster caused by the anti-popular policy of the authorities and their incompetent, corrupt and ailing social system," said Minju Chosun, a state newspaper.

"After the accident, rescue work is dragging, only a fuss being made. This fully shows the anti-popular nature of the civilian regime," said the newspaper in a signed commentary carried by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

"The collapse of Sampoong Department Store is an inevitable result of shoddy construction. It was built by those without elementary knowledge about construction in a shoddy way," said KCNA, monitored in Tokyo.

At the disaster site, rescuers dug out chunks of concrete and steel in vain hope of finding survivors. Only five bodies were retrieved from the debris Friday.

Rescue officials said they had fumigated the area to prevent the spread of infection from decomposing bodies.

Relatives of those still missing urged the government to act more quickly to retrieve

the bodies from the tangle of wreckage.

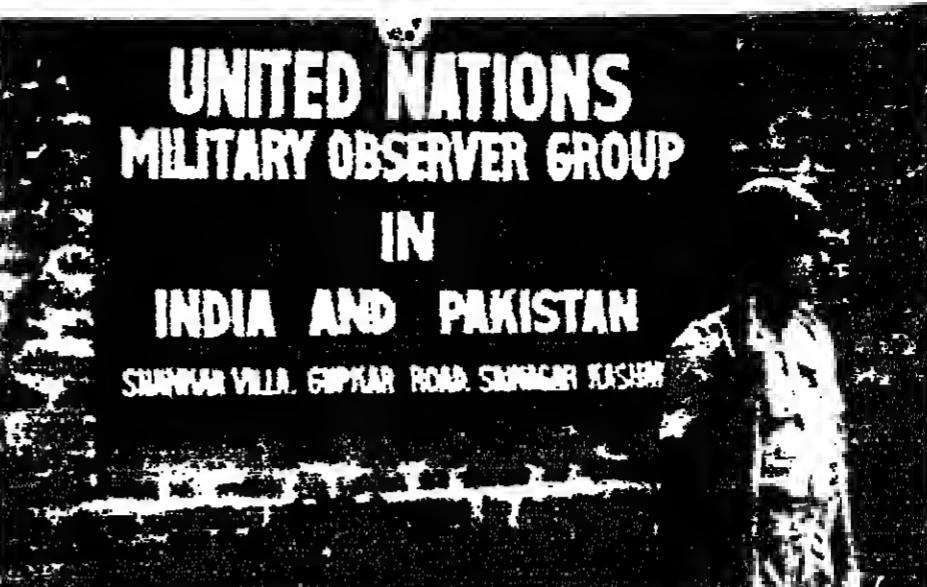
"Please do something quickly. I must have a body to bury," said one mother of a 22-year-old woman employee.

Pumps and sandbags were brought into the disaster area as heavy rainfall was forecast for the weekend.

"Once it starts raining, it's going to be a messy job," said an official at the Emergency Task Force.

Traumatized by the deadly mall collapse, many South Koreans are shunning the glitzy shopping centres that have thrived on the nation's newfound riches.

Shopping complexes that cater to Seoul's wealthy families said Friday their sales have dropped an average 25 per cent since the post Sampoong Department Store caved in on more than 1,000 people. Malls elsewhere in the country reported smaller but significant declines.



UNITED NATIONS  
MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP  
IN  
INDIA AND PAKISTAN  
SRINAGAR, JAMMU AND KASHMIR

An Indian security guard is positioned outside the United Nations Organisation (UNO) office in the city of Srinagar in the northern Kashmir state, where two Americans and two British tourists have been abducted by Kashmiri Muslim militants. The wives of two of the tourists were released and cared for at the UNO office (AFP photo).

Indian troops seek abducted tourists

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Muslim guerrillas seized four journalists in a fresh wave of abductions in Kashmir, as Indian troops intensified the search Friday for two British and two American tourists kidnapped three days ago.

Gunmen raided two newspaper offices in the state's summer capital Srinagar and abducted the journalists late Thursday, a Kashmir government spokesman here said.

The militants first barged into the office of an Urdu-language newspaper "Nida-E-Mashriq" and dragged away the editor Abdul Rashid Shah, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Later, they went to the office of English newspaper "Greater Kashmir" and asked the chief editor to accompany them, saying their commander wanted to talk to him.

When the editor resisted, the militants pointed on three other journalists — Bashir Manzoor, Manzoor Qazi and Shafat Ahmad Matoo — and took them away in a van.

But the state authorities have not established contact with the abductors, who officials said could be from Afghanistan. Afghan guerrillas are known to be fighting alongside local militants to end Indian rule over Kashmir.

Some 700 German soldiers killed in the Polish capital during World War II are buried in Warsaw's North Cemetery. During the ceremony, prayers were read out by two German priests, one Protestant and one Catholic.

The Polish press meanwhile Friday hailed Germany's support for Poland's membership of the European Union, underlining the "realism" expressed by Mr. Kohl during the first day of his visit.

In a nationally televised address to parliament Thursday, Mr. Kohl said there were no shortcuts to joining the European Union, but Germany would help Poland's candidacy.

Many papers such as the independent daily "Zycie Warszawy" and the economic "Nowa Europa" lifted Mr. Kohl's comments in which he stated: "Poland needs Europe, but Europe also needs Poland."

However according to the left-wing "Gazeta Wyborcza," Mr. Kohl "said nothing new" regarding Poland's membership of the European Union. All he did was "express hope that Poland would find its way into the EU and NATO before the end of the decade," it said.

The Civil Affairs Ministry, in a flood bulletin Friday, said 26,115 people had been injured between May and July 4, and estimated direct economic losses at 36.6 billion yuan (\$4.4 billion).

The Yangtze River provinces of Hunan and Jiangxi

have borne the brunt of the disaster, which Chinese officials have said threatens to surpass the flooding of 1954 and become the worst this century.

Nearly 100 million people in a total of 10 southern provinces have been affected by the flooding, which has destroyed 900,000 houses and damaged a further 392,000.

Altogether 5.61 million people have been stranded by rising waters and 1.31 million have had to be evacuated from their homes to safety.

A total 6.53 million hectares (16 million acres) of

crops have been submerged, of which 1.1 million (2.7 million acres) hectares have been completely destroyed, the report said.

Some 540 people have died and 14,582 injured in Hunan alone, where the government has flown in six airplanes of food and medicine and thrown more than five million people into the flood relief struggle.

A further three million Hunanese have been stranded, with more than 300,000 of them unreachable for more than 50 hours, the ministry report said.

## 1,179 people die in Chinese floods

BEIJING (AFP) — Floods caused by torrential rain have cut a swath of destruction through southern China, leaving 1,179 people dead, affecting a further 100 million and causing damage estimated at more than \$4 billion.

The Civil Affairs Ministry, in a flood bulletin Friday, said 26,115 people had been injured between May and July 4, and estimated direct economic losses at 36.6 billion yuan (\$4.4 billion).

The guides said the abductors did not speak Kashmiri, the local language, and may have been from Afghanistan.

In a note handed to the released tourists, a previously

unknown separatist group, Al Faran, claimed responsibility for the abduction and demanded the release of 21 Muslim guerrillas from prison.

Police said at least one prisoner named was a member of the pro-Pakistan Harkat-Ul-Ansar, which is known to have mercenaries from Afghanistan and other countries in its ranks.

Other Kashmiri Muslim rebels groups have condemned the abduction of the four foreigners, saying it was "bound to bring a bad name to the genuine struggle of the Kashmiris."

U.S. and British diplomats are in Srinagar to try to secure the release of their nationals.

During the past few years, Muslim militants have abducted several Westerners, including tourists from Britain, the United States and Israel, to focus global attention on their struggle.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training the Muslim militants. Islamabad denies the charge, saying it only gives moral and diplomatic support to what it describes as a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao pledged Friday to secure the release of the four Western tourists held in custody in Srinagar.

Mr. Rao, speaking to the Press Trust of India news agency during a visit to the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, said he was closely monitoring the situation.

Man finds priceless necklace in garden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — A man digging in his garden in southern Sweden found an ornate gold necklace believed to be 2,000 years old, a discovery that experts called sensational. Weighing about 500 grammes (17 ounces), the piece consists of two bulbs adorned with granular and filigree gold, linked by strands of braided gold thread. It was made in a Celtic style probably in the early from age, either in Sweden or modern-day Ireland, experts said.

"This is sensational," said curator Karin Rex Svensson, whose Alvsborg Museum — about 275 kilometres (173 miles) southwest of Stockholm — was the first to examine the necklace, which was discovered five years ago.

Only about six other such necklaces are known in the world, said Ms. Svensson, who notified outside experts about the piece after the man brought it in last week. While

# World News



A family flees from the troubled Korangi area of Karachi to avoid the continuous firing between security forces and militants. Hundreds of families are relocating to safer parts of Karachi taking only their necessary belongings, in a bid to escape the intense violence in this troubled city (AFP photo)

## Strike paralyses Karachi; anti-militant drive continues

KARACHI (AFP) — Security forces pursued their sweep of Karachi for armed militants Friday while a strike called by a major political party blamed for much of the city's violence paralysed life in Pakistan's commercial capital.

Police carried out new searches in the industrial district of Korangi to flush out militants and there were fewer running gun-battles that have left 21 dead in the district over the last three days.

"There has been an improvement in the situation," a senior police official said, adding that "we dominate certain areas, but some still need to be sanitised."

There was sporadic shooting in the troubled central district, but no widespread dis-

turbances were reported, police said.

The series of weekend strikes were called by the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) to protest against the party blamed for much of the city's violence paralysed life in Pakistan's commercial capital.

It refused to call off the strike despite talks tentatively scheduled for Sunday between the government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and MQM negotiators.

There were very few people on Karachi streets and public and private transport was thin. Shops and markets remained closed. Friday is the weekly holiday in Muslim Pakistan and people generally remain at home during the day, gathering for prayer at

mosques in the afternoon.

The government holds the MQM responsible for much of the violence that left more than 350 dead last month, including 90 killed during a three-day "mourning" observed by the party over the alleged rape and the murder of one of its leaders two weeks ago.

A security cordon remains in place around much of Korangi district, where two more bodies were found early Friday.

Police and paramilitary troopers earlier in the week launched a similar four-day operation in western Orangi district.

Police said two torture cells had been found in Korangi. The cells contained handcuffs, ropes, scissors, an electric drill, blindfolds, an axe

and blood-soaked clothes, police added.

Torture has reportedly been used frequently in Karachi. Bodies have been found with holes drilled in chest or face, burned with cigarettes and sometimes dismembered.

Officials said the Korangi operation would continue until the area was purged of militants. "The militants probably still have an ammunition dump in the area. That is why they are resisting," a security official said.

"They are using armour-piercing bullets which are causing some damage to the armoured personnel carriers but the weapons are predominantly automatic rifles," a security official said.

## Chechens break off peace talks over killings by Russian troops

GROZNY, Russia (AFP) — Chechen negotiators stormed out of peace talks with Russian officials Friday after overnight incidents in which Russian troops reportedly slaughtered 10 civilians.

The head Chechen negotiator, Usman Imayev, said the talks would be broken off permanently unless the Russians handed over the troops responsible for the killings by 8:00 p.m. (1600 GMT).

He was addressing an angry crowd gathered around the bodies of six civilians, all from the same family, including two children and a baby girl. Witnesses said a seventh member of the family died in hospital.

Neighbours in the Grozny district where the shooting is alleged to have taken place put the number of dead at eight.

The pre-dawn shooting in an eastern suburb of Grozny was carried out by men who appeared to be Russian soldiers, according to neighbours who came to the peace talks to protest.

A Russian military source

told the Interfax News Agency that the incident was a "classic provocation destined to derail the negotiation process."

"Getting Russian uniforms and weapons is not difficult (in Chechnya), he added, calling the killings "part of a series of provocations by extremists led by (Chechen President Dzhokhar) Dudayev since the conflict began."

"There are people who are interested in a bloodbath," he said.

The latest peace talks began after Chechen guerrillas, on the verge of defeat, struck in Russian territory last month, taking 1,500 hostages in the southern city of Budenovsk.

Russian troops rolled into Chechnya in December to crush the tiny Caucasus republic's three-year-old independence bid. The war has left between 15,000 and 30,000 people dead, many of them civilians.

Meanwhile, President Boris Yeltsin Friday appeared to backtrack from an

order calling for a permanent military presence in Chechnya, saying such a deployment would now depend on the outcome of peace talks under way in Grozny.

The new position was contained in a presidential decree issued by the Kremlin press service.

The decree called on the Defence Ministry to "determine the conditions for deploying troops (...) according to the results in settling the crisis in the Chechen Republic and the orders of the Russian president."

A first decree issued by Mr. Yeltsin Tuesday announced simply that Russian forces would be permanently stationed in Chechnya.

Chechen negotiators strongly protested against Mr. Yeltsin's first decree, saying it contradicted all the gains made in peace talks which opened in the devastated Chechen capital Grozny after a ceasefire accord reached on June 21.

## Youth violence continues north of London

LUTON, England (AFP) — Seven police were injured and 16 people arrested early Friday as rampaging teenagers smashed, torched and looted their way through town in a second night of violence sparked by the re-capture of a young escapee.

Police said the trouble was sparked by the arrest Wednesday of a 13-year-old detention centre runaway. In the second night of trouble late Thursday, hundreds of youths, estimated at up to 500 and as

young as 12, hurled bricks and bottles at police and torched a library, three schools, vehicles and garbage bins.

Officers said Thursday night's six-hour siege began just before midnight with a handful of youths that quickly snowballed to a mob.

As they approached the initial gathering of unruly youths in an attempt to talk to them, officers said, other youths in a stolen car screeched to a halt in the middle of the street and firebombed the car, sparking the

riot. Police said the violence was confined to the vast working class section called Marsh Farm Estate in this city 35 kilometres north of London.

Security and fire-fighting

reinforcements were called in from surrounding cities, police said.

Looting mobs turned on

TV crews filming the violence, stripping a GMTV truck of £15,000 (\$23,000) worth of equipment before setting it ablaze. The three-

## Kim Jong-Il mourns father amid hints of imminent formal succession

SEOUL (AFP) — North Korea's reclusive leader, Kim Jong-Il, made a rare appearance at a mass memorial service in Pyongyang Friday, at which officials hinted he could soon formally take over the leadership of the isolated Communist state, monitors said.

The appearance of the bespectacled junior Kim, 53, came at a mass memorial service attended by 10,000 people on the eve of the first anniversary of the death of his father, Kim Il-Sung.

"Comrade Kim Jong-Il... is present at the service with state and party officials," the Communist state's mouthpiece Korea Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo said.

The monitors said the junior Kim's appearance at the massive ceremony which started at 7:00 p.m. (1000 GMT) was his first since June 16 when he visited an army

unit, and his first in the North Korean capital since April.

Calling Kim Jong-Il the "destiny and future of our country," KCNA quoted the chairman of the North's Supreme People's Assembly, Yang Hyong-Sop as urging party members, military and workers to pledge "infinite loyalty" to him.

"Comrade Kim Jong-Il... is immediately Comrade Kim Il-Sung. He has fully inherited the idea, leadership and noble virtues of Comrade Kim Il-Sung," KCNA quoted Mr. Yang as saying, adding that the address had been authorised by Kim Jong-Il.

The speech coincided with reports by a state-funded South Korean thinktank here that North Koreans were practising a song celebrating Kim Jong-Il's being named head of state and party general secretary.

In a parallel development, North Koreans are also changing descriptions of the late president from Great Leader Kim Il-Sung to "Beloved Father Kim Il-sung," the report said.

The junior Kim's failure to take the two top posts in the

## Fresh row erupts over S. Africa massacre

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A fresh row has erupted in South Africa over out-of-country comments by President Nelson Mandela on killings during a march by Zulus last year in Johannesburg, the country's "commercial" centre.

"New row over massacre," the mass-circulation Johannesburg Star said in a front-page headline Friday.

Police say at least 55 people were killed in an around Johannesburg on March 28, 1994, during a march by Zulu backers of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) a month before the country's first all-race polls.

Eight Zulus were gunned down outside the Shell House headquarters of Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), which is the arch-rival of the IFP.

The president has said he authorised ANC guards to kill if necessary to defend the building.

Mr. Mandela sparked the latest upsurge in a continuing controversy with remarks to the South African Press Association (SAPA) during his current visits to Japan and South Korea.

Mr. Mandela was quoted Friday as having said on his plane between Tokyo and Seoul that the failure of police to take adequate precautions to protect Shell House "lends credibility to the perception that there was a plot between the IFP and the police."

Mr. Cornwell said he doubted whether all material on such activities would ever

see the light of day, but the Shell House incident and its handling — by all sides, including the ANC — "raises a number of very uncomfortable questions."

Meanwhile in Seoul, Mr. Mandela and his South Korean counterpart Kim Young-Sam agreed Friday to expand trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

"We agreed that our two countries should endeavour to further build our bilateral relations into an exemplary model of cooperation between developing countries," Mr. Kim said at a joint press conference.

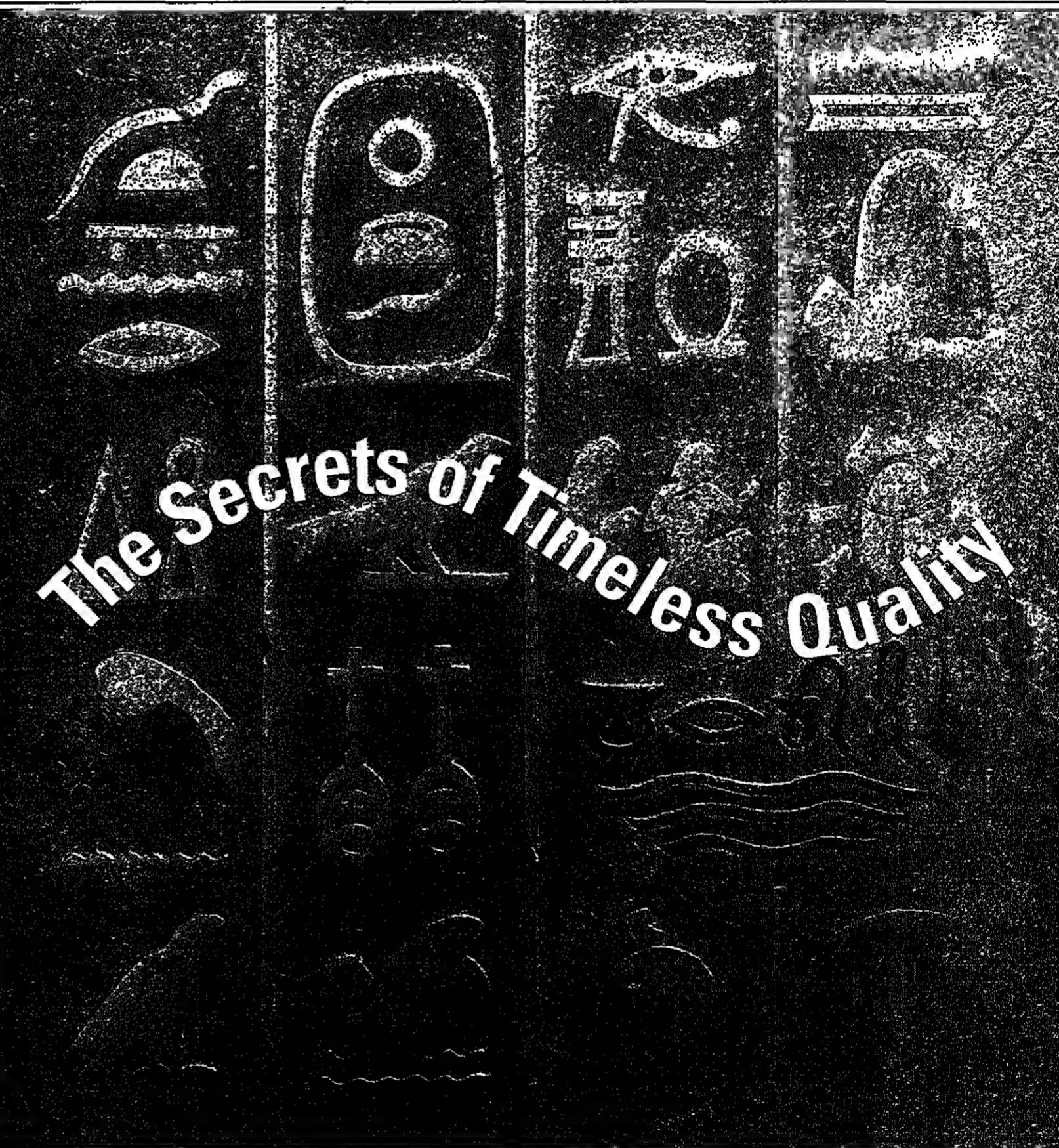
Mr. Mandela said South Africa "would like to increase its trade with South Korea," which he called "a highly valued trading partner" for his country.

But he also hinted all was not smooth sailing, by urging South Korea to lower barriers on imports of fresh fruit and meat.

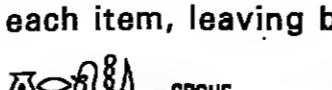
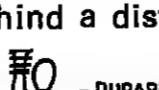
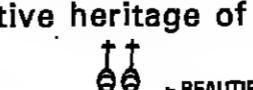
"These prohibitions should be removed," he said, but added that "trade is booming," with South Korea, now South Africa's 11th largest export market and fifth largest supplier.

Mr. Kim said the two intended to further cooperation in culture, sport and tourism.

The joint press conference followed hour-long summit talks, which Mr. Kim said provided an exceedingly significant occasion for the two countries to "lay a solid basis for even more substantive cooperation."



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## Open defiance

THERE IS bad news and good news coming from the mass hunger strike by Palestinian prisoners in six Israeli jails who began fasting on June 18.

The bad news is that the hunger strikers in three of these jails have decided to "suspend" their action on the advice of Palestinian National Authority President Yasser Arafat. This suspension, in the opinion of one striker, was bad news because it split the prisoners' front. The pause is supposed to give a chance to a joint Palestinian-Israeli ministerial committee on prisoners to work out which prisoners should be released and when.

But the Palestinians have had enough of "joint committees" which, almost invariably, end by making still more concessions to Israel. So, the good news is that 1,000 of the prisoners in three of the prisons are going on with their fast, this includes the women in the Tel Mond jail. Also continuing are the 28 sympathy strikers in the International Red Cross compound in East Jerusalem. Other solidarity fasts have been taking place in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Jericho, despite Mr. Arafat's attempts to get them to stop.

The strikers say that Mr. Arafat has no credentials to deal with the prisoner issue because he sent his right-hand man, Dr. Nabil Shaath, his minister of planning in the Palestinian National Authority, to tell the civilian strikers in Jerusalem to accept an Israeli offer to release some prisoners provided they signed a pledge not to oppose the peace process. Dr. Shaath was angrily shouted down.

Furthermore, according to the PNA's minister of justice, Freih Abu Meddain, "Israel makes agreements only to break them." Having pledged in the Oslo accord to release prisoners it has jailed 3,000 more Palestinians since that accord was signed.

Another piece of good news, from the Palestinian point of view, is that the refugees are being led by Faisal Husseini, designated by Mr. Arafat as the PNA representative in Jerusalem. Mr. Husseini himself has been on hunger strike for ten days now; and says he will go on until all prisoners stop fasting which, in turn, depends on a general prisoner release. Mr. Husseini, the scion of an old and very influential Jerusalem family, is thus in open defiance of Mr. Arafat and at the highest level.

A doctor attending the Jerusalem group has said that after 17 days of a diet of water and salt the health of a 66-year-old mother of two prisoners is causing concern.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

FAKHRI KAWAR, a writer in Al Dustour, lauded Jordan Television for carrying a programme that focused on the plight of the inhabitants of Ruseifa where pollution has reached a dangerous proportion. The television programme focused on the environment in the town which lies between Amman and Zarqa and whose lands serve as a garbage dump for the inhabitants of the capital and its industrial waste and replayed earlier statements by government officials and Amman mayor about measures taken to deal with this problem and remove the danger that threatens the lives of the local population, said the writer. None of the promises given by officials to the 20,000 inhabitants in Ruseifa have been honoured and the families continue to inhale the stench and the bad smell and watch their children grow in a very polluted atmosphere, he added. Since 1990, the local population has been demanding solutions to their chronic problems despite the pledges given by Parliament members and cabinet ministers to deal with this issue, continued the writer. Saying that the latest promises came from Amman Mayor Mamoud Abbadi, who said that the garbage dump will be moved away from the town and that the waste will be processed to produce fertilizers to help grow trees and green Jordan, the writer said that people believe that the mayor will end this tragedy and save the lives of the local inhabitants because the mayor had grown up in the Zarqa and Ruseifa area and understands the problem better than any other. He expressed hope that the mayor, together with all concerned officials, will take serious steps to end this problem.

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily strongly criticised a report by the World Bank, which stated that the Middle East region has no future because it is beset with chronic issues like poverty, unemployment and backwardness which are impossible to eradicate. Fahd Al Faneek said that though the report could have implied a warning to the decision-makers in the Middle Eastern countries to be concerned should they fail to take drastic action to improve the situation, the report as it stands deals a devastating blow to plans for attracting investors.

## Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilani

## Harness around Iraq's neck must be removed

JORDAN'S CALL for a high-level international dialogue with the Iraqi leadership with a view to resolving the four-year-old stand-off in the Gulf reflects the reality of the situation in the region after the failure of U.S.-led efforts to topple the government of President Saddam Hussein. If Washington and its strongest ally in this respect, the United Kingdom, do not appreciate the fact that their approach to the Gulf crisis is flawed, then it is a matter not wanting to appreciate for reasons known not only to them but also to the rest of the world.

But what is of high concern to us in Jordan is the determined American-British systematic destruction of the Iraqi society over the past four years. Regardless of whether Washington and London would like to admit it, the stark reality that we see today in Iraq is simply the suffering of a people and reports of absolute misery that is gnawing away at the very fabric of a society.

Children and the elderly are dying of hunger and easily preventable diseases. Men find little chances of making a living. Iraqi women have been pushed to the most degradable level of motherhood -- of having to tell their children they could not offer them food when they are crying out in hunger.

What purpose does this serve?

It would seem that some people are born into this world for the simple purpose of making other suffer.

And the world does not seem to care. But that appearance is deceiving. There is a growing movement, as His Majesty King Hussein reiterated in the last two weeks, that enough is enough, and the world has to come up with a formula that ends the suffering of the Iraqi people.

First and foremost, the covert and not-so-covert policies and actions adopted by the Washington-London alliance against Iraq have miserably failed to undermine the survival of the government of President Saddam in Baghdad. The U.S. and the U.K. might want to pat themselves in the back that reports of unrest in Iraq are signs

of a growing momentum in the country against the regime, but the truth is that they themselves know very well that odds are very strong against such a course of events.

The truth, however, is that the people actually suffering from the stubborn refusal by the U.S. and the U.K. to entertain any thought of settling the conflict without dictating impossible political condition are the 18 or 19 million Iraqis.

For us in Jordan, it is totally frustrating to be unable to do anything to help our brethren across the border in Iraq. The frustration is compounded when we realise that the suffering of the Iraqi people is nothing but a direct result of the desire of some world powers to protect their own political and economic interests in the region.

The United States and its allies are totally mistaken and are kidding only themselves if they believe, as their leaders and official assert, that Arabs all over support their approach to Iraq. Arab applause, as seen from Washington, of the U.S. policies in the Gulf region comes only from a very small minority. The reality is that there is a profound sense of grief among the Arab masses over what is happening to the people of Iraq and that sense is continuing to grow every day. Washington may or may not want President Saddam in power in Baghdad, but it does not mean that we Arabs have to go along silently with it and watch helplessly as our blood and kin in Iraq suffer for no fault of their own.

The only question that faces the Arab masses is what they can do about the situation. Given the unchallenged supremacy of the U.S. as the leading world power and given the peculiar features of Arab politics, it seems highly unlikely that Washington and London would ever climb down from their high towers to appreciate that what matters more than politics, oil economics and arms sales is the human element.

We are not ready to accept the American and British argument that if Baghdad was concerned over the welfare of its people then it would accept the limited oil sale that the West has so magnanimously offered. We believe that the

very essence of the proposal is to set a precedent that would enable the U.S. to exert indirect control of Iraq's oil wealth and oil sales through the United Nations. It will be a violation of the sovereignty of Iraq and shackling the freedom of Iraq as an independent sovereign state to use its resources in the manner it finds best.

So where do we go from here?

France, China and Russia -- three other major powers which, like the U.S. and Britain, have their role, albeit to varying degrees, in the international scene -- have supported the sensible view that four years of concerted economic pressure after more than 40 days of consistent bombing are more than enough of punishment to Iraq.

The way out is simple and clear: The United Nations Security Council has set its conditions for lifting the shackles on Iraq, and Iraq has met with most, if not all the conditions, and is in the process of meeting the rest, as U.N. inspector Rolf Ekeus said last week. No other conditions should be attached to the lifting of the sanctions and article 22 of Resolution 687 should be applied in its strict sense without allowing the U.S. to add on its whimsical demands.

So when the issue of sanctions against Iraq comes up this week at the U.N. Security Council, the world should have the courage to tell Washington and London that it is no longer willing to stand by and allow them to misuse the world body's powers to suit their self-serving interests.

The simple message of the world should be: The choking harness around Iraq's neck should be removed without any delay. And those who stand against that removal should not be allowed to prevail.

The challenge that faces the international community today is to make sure that this message is heard loud and clear and acted upon. If the world fails to pick the challenge, it would be failing itself in fulfilling the obligations attached to human life when God created us.

## THE WEEK IN PRINT

## Egyptian-Sudanese dispute must not be allowed to escalate into war

By Elia Nasrallah

THE ARABIC dailies in the past week gave prominence to the Egyptian-Sudanese dispute, the peace process as well as domestic affairs.

Tareq Masarweh, a writer in Al Ra'i, accused foreign powers of fuelling the dispute between Cairo and Khartoum and said that political reasons lie behind the whole issue. The writer said that Israel was quick to declare that Israel was behind the assassination attempt on the Egyptian president, while Cairo accused Sudan of the attempt and these accusations are based on political reasons stemming from hostile stands and not based on facts resulting from the investigations. The foreign powers behind the whole issue are keen on embroiling Arabs in their side-differences so that Israel can rest in peace and at the same time are keen on forcing the Arabs to make peace with Israel, claiming that such peace brings with it prosperity for the Arabs.

Foreign powers have been behind the strained relations between Sudan and Egypt and it was due to the strained relations that Cairo was quick to announce that Khartoum was behind the abortive attempt in Addis Ababa, said the writer, who cautioned the two Arab states to refrain from any hostile acts that benefit neither country.

However, bitter was the abortive attempt on the life of President Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptians should not threaten war against their southern neighbours, said Saleh Al Qallab, a writer in Al Dostour. Even if the persons who carried out the abortive attempt were Sudanese nationals, this cannot justify Cairo's accusations of Khartoum of being behind the attack as a regime, said the writer.

While condemning the criminal attack on Mr. Mubarak, one cannot justify any armed conflict between Cairo and Khartoum because war can solve no problem but rather deepen

splits between regimes and people, he added. The Sudanese and Egyptian regimes should take a lesson from the past and avert the shedding of Arab blood at any cost, said Fakhri Saleh, another Al Dostour columnist, said Arab masses hope that the war of words between Sudan and Egypt will not develop into a military conflict that would be disastrous to the two countries.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a writer in Al Ra'i daily, said the Arab masses are appalled at the deteriorating relations between Cairo and Khartoum and the war of words that might lead to an armed conflict between them. Recalling that the crisis stemmed from the abortive attempt on the life of the Egyptian president, the writer said that Cairo and Khartoum have been trading accusations before the incidents, with Cairo accusing Khartoum of being behind the training and arming of Islamists in Egypt. What is needed now is a mediation at the Arab level to defuse tension and prevent the two Arab states from sliding towards conflict, said the writer.

Hamad Faraaneh, another Al Dostour columnist, blamed Egypt for the deterioration of relations with Sudan, saying that Cairo has no evidence whatsoever that Sudan was behind the attempt on the life of the Egyptian president in Addis Ababa. Saying that Egypt and Sudan had been often clashed on the border, costing both of them many innocent lives, the writer cautioned against any rash decisions on the part of the two regimes. He said Cairo should remember that it is fighting a war against the opposition groups inside Egypt and should not place the blame on others or go to war, which would ruin development projects in the two countries and place additional burdens on the national economies of the two countries.

Mohammad Subeih, a writer in Al Dostour, suggested that Jordan offer its mediation to end the Cairo-Khartoum dispute. Jordan seems to be the only Arab state which is eligible to play this role at the moment since the Kingdom maintains good relations with the two countries, and it is in Jordan's interest to see that Cairo and Khartoum settle their differences amicably and abort hostile parties' plots against the two countries, said the writer. Saying that some Arab and foreign states

have interests in seeing Sudan's regime collapsed and its national economy in ruins through a war with Egypt, the writer said that Jordan for its part has a real interest in safeguarding the interests of the two countries.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a writer in Al Ra'i daily, said the dispute can be settled through Arab mediation and through reason and self-restraint which must be exercised by the Sudanese and the Egyptian leaderships.

Yousef Al Azm, a writer in Al Dostour, said that foreign powers are behind the dispute between Khartoum and Cairo simply because they want Egypt to be involved in war with Sudan to help bring down the Islamist regime in Khartoum. The writer said that the fact that an Islamist regime is in existence, it will shortly have far-reaching influence on the other nations in Asia and Africa, something that the world Zionists fear and the United States hates to see. The writer said that the United States and Israel are doing all that their power to undermine the stability in Sudan.

Tackling the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations, Mahmoud Rimawi, a writer in Al Ra'i, said that the Israeli government is adamant in its position with regard to the return of displaced Palestinians. The Israeli government says that the return of Palestinians displaced from the 1967 war would disturb the demographic balance in the Palestinian lands and would bring further security headaches to the Israelis, said the writer. He said that over the past 28 years of occupation, the Israelis have been responsible for the imbalances in the West Bank and Gaza and the tension and wars with the Arab states neighbouring Israel.

According to the Palestinian-Israeli agreements, the displaced persons should be able to return to their homeland but the Israelis still refuse to abide by the accord, he added. He said that Israel's adamant position was behind the failure of the meetings in Cairo and Bir Al Sabt and Amman by a committee discussing the future of the displaced

reasons, they have only themselves to blame for the dangerous situation that would ensue, said the writer.

The writer said that the dispute can be settled through Arab mediation and through reason and self-restraint which must be exercised by the Sudanese and the Egyptian leaderships.

Yousef Al Azm, a writer in Al Dostour, said that Israel is dragging its feet with regard to the question of redeploying its forces as provided for in the Oslo accord and so no solution for the deadlock is in sight. The redeployment plan as suggested by the Israelis, added the writer, means keeping a de facto occupation of Palestinian lands.

Israel suffers from a security complex and this is negatively affecting its peace negotiations with the Arabs, said Tareq Masarweh. In Palestine, he said, the Israelis insist on keeping Jerusalem and giving the Palestinians limited self-rule over limited parts of the West Bank while in Syria, Israel insists on occupying parts of the Golan and keeping troops there to ensure security for the Jewish state. Stressing that the Israelis are proving day after day that they have not changed their stand towards occupation of Arab lands, said the writer. But everyone realises the fact that the Oslo deal was meant to end the presence of Israelis on Arab territory in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and everyone also realises that no just and durable peace is viable under the present situation, added the writer.

Writing in Al Ra'i, Zuleikah Al Risha called for all public and private organisations in Jordan to give due support to women unions' drive to present their views at the Beijing conference this year. Contrary to what some think, participation in the Beijing conference on women will bring about many benefits to women in the Arab World, said the writer. Referring to the preparations for the conference, the writer said that women who hold series of meetings to pave the ground for the Beijing meeting, the writer said that these meetings are bound to help crystallise women's demands and help them better present their case to the world conference.

Taher Al Adwan, a writer in Al Dostour daily, said the daily scenes of violence and clashes between the Palestinians and the Israelis clearly reflect the fact that peace is out of reach but it also demonstrates the fact that the Palestinians refuse to allow Israel to impose its will on them. Acting with this mentality and using force to achieve its ends, Israel is bound to face more resistance and can never dream of peace that contradicts all norms and international and humanitarian rules, said the writer.

Israel's refusal or delays in implementing the second

phase of the Oslo deal with the Palestinians under different forms of pretexts are clearly aimed at undermining the peace process with the Palestinians, according to Ibrahim Al Aboi Al Ra'i daily. The writer said that the Israelis continue to hold on to their settlements that were illegally set up on Arab lands and find a pretext of ensuring security for these settlements in order to justify their refusal to pull out their forces from the Arab territories, said the writer. But everyone realises the fact that the Oslo deal was meant to end the presence of Israelis on Arab territory in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and everyone also realises that no just and durable peace is viable under the present situation, added the writer.

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With reference to the parliamentary debate over the repealing of laws on boycotting Israel, a writer in Al Dostour said that selling of any part of Jordanian territory to a foreigner will be a violation of the Constitution. According to Abdul Latif Subeih, the Constitution states clearly that: The Kingdom is an independent sovereign state whose territory cannot be compromised nor can any part of it be ceded to others. He said that this provision makes it imperative on the government to prevent the selling of real estate to foreigners.

The solving

By Chip Poston

FROM MY home in Shuafat, a Palestinian neighborhood in East Jerusalem, I watch as 2,100 new housing units are rapidly constructed on an adjacent hill. The new Israeli settlement, named Rehovot Shufat, is a large ultra-Orthodox Jewish community, one of the largest in the city. To the north, east and south are other extensive Israeli residential areas, all built since the war and all considered illegal according to civilian law, which prohibits the introduction of settlers into areas under military occupation.

On the hill — New Psigot, Ze'evi, French Hill and Ramat Shlomo — a combined population of over 50,000 is the most of the Arab population remaining in East Jerusalem. Shufat is surrounded by Israeli settlements, all built since the war and all considered illegal according to civilian law, which prohibits the introduction of settlers into areas under military occupation.

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Letter from occupied Jerusalem

## 'There will never be peace' before solving the dispute over the holy city

By Chip Poston

FROM MY home in Shufat, a Palestinian neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, I watch as 2,100 new housing units are rapidly constructed on an adjacent hill. The new Israeli settlement, named Reches Shufat, will house ultra-Orthodox Jews in a former "green area," which until last year was one of the largest pine forests in the city. To the north, east and south are other extensive Israeli residential areas — Neve Ya'akov, Pisgat Ze'ev, French Hill and Ramat Eshkol, with a combined population of over 50,000. Like most of the Arab enclaves remaining in East Jerusalem, Shufat is surrounded by Israeli settlements, all built since the 1967 war and all considered illegal according to international law, which prohibits the introduction of civilian populations into areas under belligerent military occupation.

Israeli politicians — including Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin — frequently restate their well worn claim that Jerusalem is Israel's "undivided, eternal capital," whose status must not be subject to negotiations with the Palestinians. But this ignores the most

fundamental reality of life in Jerusalem: Division.

Twenty-eight years after Israeli military occupation, Arab Jerusalem still lacks adequate roads, schools, sanitation, public parks, telephones, street lights. Jerusalem's Palestinian residents, who today comprise 27 per cent of its population, pay their proportionate share of city taxes, yet they receive only 5 per cent of municipal services. Since the start of the intifada few Israelis venture into Arab Jerusalem, and many fear coming to the city altogether. "Whoever says that Jerusalem is united is wrong," declares Faisal Hussein, Palestine National Authority (PNA) minister without portfolio who "unofficially" represents Jerusalem issues. "Whoever takes a walk in Jerusalem will find two cities: One suffers from the occupation, the other runs it."

If the situation of Jerusalem's Palestinian residents has changed in the era of the Declaration of Principles, it is only because life has worsened. The military closure which separates Israel from the West Bank and Gaza, imposed in March 1993, has reduced commerce in East Jerusalem by half. Since Palesti-

nians cannot enter the city without permits from the Israeli army — a system not unlike the former South African apartheid laws — Arab Jerusalem's schools, hospitals, libraries and bus lines are struggling for survival.

While the municipality has shifted control for municipal planning into the hands of right-wing and ultra-Orthodox Israeli politicians, Palestinians continue to be systematically denied zoning approvals and housing permits.

Arab homes built without permits are subject to demolition and Palestinian land continues to be confiscated so the city can build new housing for the tens of thousands of Israelis who have settled in East Jerusalem since the 1967 war.

Palestinian residents of Jerusalem who were not recorded in the Israeli census of 1967 — including the spouses and children of permanent residents — must apply for residency status from the Israeli interior ministry in order to legally reside here. If Palestinians from Jerusalem spend too much time abroad, or even marry a non-Jerusalem resident, they are liable to lose their residency status. By way of contrast, a Jew from almost

anywhere in the world can move to Jerusalem under the Law of Return and automatically become a citizen of Israel. Since 1967 the demographic shift has been so dramatic that East Jerusalem, which had virtually no Jewish residents at the time of the Six Day war, now has a majority population of Israelis — approximately 160,000.

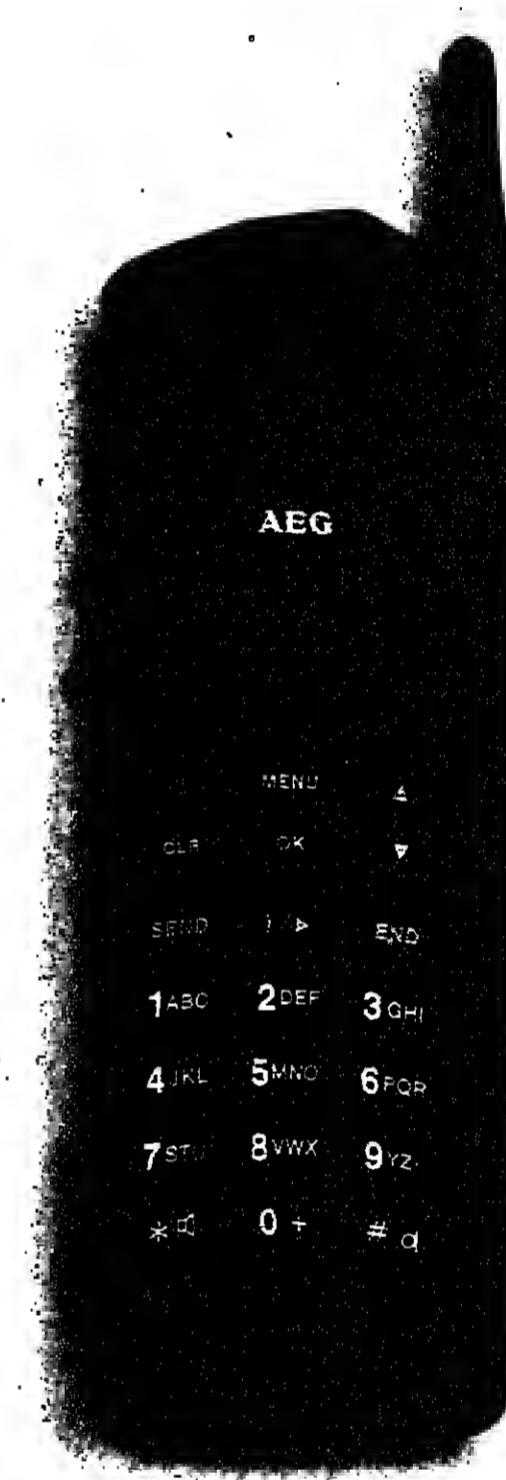
Article Five of the Declaration of Principles (DoP) states that permanent status negotiations on Jerusalem should begin "as soon as possible, but not later than the beginning of the third year of the interim period." However, the timetables agreed to in the DoP have thus far been ignored by

Israel. There is no question that the longer Prime Minister Rabin can delay discussions over the fate of Jerusalem, the stronger Israel's position will be when final status negotiations begin. Meanwhile,

Israel continues to construct settlements at a feverish pace in and around Jerusalem, as it implements a policy "of legalised transfer" designed to drive the remaining Palestinian population out of the city. Late last year the Knesset passed legislation outlawing

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- Dimensions: approx. 16.5 x 5.5 x 2cm
- High capacity battery: (NiMH 6V).
- Charging time: approx. 30 min.
- Talk time: approx. 1.5 hours with high capacity battery, more than 2 hours with super high capacity battery (accessory).
- Stand-by time: 20-26 hours with high capacity battery, up to 2 days with super high capacity battery (accessory).
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Save Water ... Every Drop Counts.

## Afghan rivals square off in strategic Salang Pass

By Peter Greste

Reuter

SALANG PASS, Afghanistan — On one side of a steep, narrow valley, Said Mohammadin squints along his rifle-barrel at a lump of rock jutting over Afghanistan's famed Salang highway about 200 metres away.

Behind that rock, Abdullah Noori checks his light machinegun as his comrades stuff spare magazines with Chinese-made rounds.

Mohammadin and Noori are fighters on opposite sides of the frontline in the Salang Pass, preparing for more action as government and opposition forces step up a long struggle for control of the strategic mountain route.

The Salang Pass links Kabul with Afghanistan's northern provinces and the Central Asian states

beyond.

The only sealed road across the mountains, it runs through high ground offering significant military advantage to anyone controlling it.

Mohammadin is a member of Jumbish-I-Milli, part of the opposition supreme coordination council fighting to overthrow the Kabul government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Jumbish-I-Milli, led by General Abdul Rashid Dostum, holds mountain posts in the northern half of the Salang Pass.

Gen. Dostum says he plans to push south to seize the highest point about five kilometres away.

"From there, Bagram air base, the Panjshir Valley and Jabal Us Saraj will all be within range of our artillery, and Kabul will be defeated," he said, confidently tapping a map at his

northern headquarters in Mazar-I-Sharif.

Rahmani's military strongman, Ahmed Shah Masood, uses Bagram to launch air strikes on Dostum's men. Masood's headquarters are at Jabal Us Saraj. His home is in the Panjshir valley, where many of his commanders and fighters come from.

While Gen. Dostum and his men set their sights on the mountain tops, Abdullah Noori and his comrades are equally determined to fight their way to vantage points above the opposition-held towns of Doushi and Pul-I-Khumri just north of the pass.

Defence Ministry sources in Kabul say government forces are getting ready to try to push northwards.

Fresh bomb craters dotting the frontlines show how both sides have been using warplanes to soften up their foes, but the battle is almost certain to become a war of attrition.

The Salang Pass is a steep and icy region, where deep gullies and razor-sharp ridges cleave the mountain and every boulder gives as much protection as a well-

tum's control," he said.

Despite recent attempts to agree to ceasefire, both sides appear to be preparing to take the offensive.

Western aid workers in Jabal Us Saraj, which guards the southern entrance to the Salang, say large numbers of government troop trucks and ammunition are moving into the pass.

Government and opposition forces facing off along the Salang Pass today are keeping their strategies secret. But each knows the other's objectives and neither is prepared to give way.

Ahmed Shah Masood slips away from his position behind the rock to go and help distribute fresh ammunition. Said Mohammadin gets on the radio to order up extra supplies of mortar shells.

"They are for the government's breakfast," he says grinning.

## Many S. Yemenis are eager for return of sultans

ADEN (AFP) — Southern Yemenis, shaken by last year's civil war and anxious about the future, are placing their hopes on the return of tribal sheikhs and sultans who have been in exile for 28 years.

Many southerners are eager for an enlightened form of the tribal rule which the Marxists tried to quash while they were in power from 1967 until 1994.

Those Marxists in the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) were discredited when the party's forces lost last year's civil war, which erupted over its attempt to secede from the 1990 union of North and South Yemen.

Since he became president of Yemen upon unification, Ali Abdullah Saleh, a northerner, has been building bridges with the descendants of the southern tribal aristocracy, which had ruled Aden under a British protectorate.

"By helping them return and recover their property, he made them his own men," said Sheikh Tareq Abdullah, a lawyer, said. Mr. Saleh has ruled northern Yemen by cooperating with the tribes of that region.

Most of the sheikhs and sultans went into exile in Sandi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Britain when South Yemen gained independence from London in 1967 and the Marxists took power.

Mr. Saleh encouraged them to return to build institutions that were parallel to a southern administration run mainly by the YSP, according to Renaud Detalle, a researcher with the French Centre of Yemeni Studies.

The YSP was finally ousted

from the northern-based coalition government in October last year, months after the civil war ended on July 7.

Deprived of their own political leaders, southern Yemenis are looking increasingly forward to the return of a more enlightened group of sultans.

"I think they learned the lessons of the past. They cannot go back to the old rules," said Sheikh Abdul Rahman Nomah, the sole deputy of the Free Constitution Party, which was founded here in 1944.

The descendants of the exiled sheikhs and sultans are "highly sophisticated and enlightened people" who have studied in the West, Sheikh Abdullah said.

"They are completely and entirely different people. They are not being forced on

the people. People welcome them. What could be better?" he added.

But the problem is that the prodigals some are not coming to stay. "They come back for a month, we sacrifice oxes and sheep for them, then they leave," Ahmad Hussein Bilal, a surgeon, said.

Mr. Detalle warned against the tribal system which is prevalent in the north. "The tribes already want to control all the jobs for security guards and drivers in the oil companies. They will kill each other for a car."

Sheikh Abdullah agreed. "The tribes not only use violence to put things right but also to commit wrongs," he said.

But the return of the sheikhs would generally help the south, he said. "That would again show the superiority of the south over the north, even in the tribal system."

## Egypt does not want tension

(Continued from page 1) he on June 26 when gunmen opened fire at his car soon after he left the airport to go into town.

Egypt angered Ethiopia last week by implicating some Ethiopian security officials in the attack but Egyptian ministers later said they had confidence in the Ethiopians.

Gen. Alfi said: "The Ethiopian regime is now rebuilding its institutions and definitely the Ethiopian security apparatus still suffers from some shortcomings, especially in protecting a conference like the African summit and the VIPs taking part."

He said Egyptian and Ethiopian security had

gathered plenty of information on the incident but he could not reveal any of it for fear of compromising the investigation.

Sudan's spiritual leader Hassan Al Tourabi, the man behind the military government in Khartoum, has praised the gang that failed to assassinate Mr. Mubarak.

"A group of mujahideen have cropped up from Egypt's soul, chasing Egypt's pharaoh (Mubarak) anywhere he goes," he said in a speech made earlier this week but only published Wednesday by the official news agency SUNA.

It was his first show of support, since the assassination attempt, for the armed

Egyptian militant group Gamaa Al Islamiyah, which claimed the attack and vowed to kill the president.

Last week after Mr. Mubarak implicated Sudan in the attack, Mr. Tourabi, the emir of Sudanese politics, and government ministers contented themselves with simply denying being involved.

Now, however, there is a different tone to their statements.

"Egypt is today experiencing a drought in religion and faith. A catastrophe has befallen the Egyptians," Mr. Tourabi said.

"Allah has willed that Islam be revived from Sudan and Islamic religion will flow along with the waters of the Nile to cleanse Egypt from obscenity," he added.

available through them to the Western European Union (WEU).

The Ariane rocket also deployed two smaller satellites, a French Cerise and a Spanish UPMSAT-1, shortly after launching in 1988 and 1990 the Skynet-4B and 4C communications satellites which were used by the British Defence Ministry to commun-

icate with its troops and ships.

The French military has refused to release much information about its classified satellite, other than to say it weighs 2.5 tonnes and is equipped with a large solar panel.

It was the third time that the European rocket has been used to carry military satellites into space. It also launched in 1988 and 1990 the Skynet-4B and 4C communications satellites which were used by the British Defence Ministry to commun-

icate with its troops and ships.

The French military has refused to release much information about its classified satellite, other than to say it weighs 2.5 tonnes and is equipped with a large solar panel.

No details were provided on how sharp a resolution its cameras can provide, but a document from the French aerospace firm Aerospatiale said the satellite carried "the most performing optical instrument ever produced in Europe."

He said Egyptian and Ethiopian security had

## Delayed debate of economic laws depresses stock market

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Dampened prospects for early enactment of key laws on economic reforms and eased taxation depressed the Amman Stock Market this week, and share prices dropped in thin trading.

Brokers at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) said investors appeared to be expecting the downward trend to continue until the legislation was presented to Parliament.

It was not immediately known when the government intended to send the draft laws to the assembly, which started an extraordinary session last month to debate pending legislation deemed as urgent.

The weekly AFM report said trading for the week dipped to five million dinars, a two-thirds decline from last week.

The official AFM share price index based on 60 of the 120 companies listed in the market shed 2.2 points or 1.5 per cent during the week to close at 156.5 points.

Brokers said the actual decline in prices was close to three per cent since most of the trading was in stocks not included in the official index.

The separate sectoral AFM indices showed that industrialists lost 2.2 per cent, banks 1.3 per cent, service firms 1.3 per cent and insurance companies 0.4 per cent.

The services sector accounted for more than one third of the weekly volume, with 1.8 million dinars. Next came industrialists with a volume of 1.7 million dinars, followed by commercial banks with 1.2 million dinars and insurance stock with 300,000 dinars.

The AFM report said 2.2 million shares changed hands during the week under 3,410 contracts.

The week saw trading in-

volving 94 companies. As the market closed for the week, only 20 of them showed slight gains, 59 lost and 15 remained stable.

Brokers said there was a crunch on liquidity in the market after the Central Bank offered short-term certificates of deposits with yields up to nine per cent in a move aimed at checking conversion of dinar holdings to Monday.

"We diminished liquidity and low hopes of seeing the new laws being passed soon. It was only natural that prices declined," commented an AFM dealer who, under standing market guidelines, cannot be identified.

In any case, said the dealer, investors had already gambled on expectations attached to the draft laws related to investments and taxation and it was unlikely that the market would reverse its decline before the government actually sends the legislation to Parliament.

The AFM report said 2.2 million shares changed hands during the week under 3,410 contracts.

The week saw trading in-

## Saudi 1995-2000 plan sees 3.8% GDP growth

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia published details of its 1995-2000 development plan on Wednesday, forecasting faster average economic growth of 3.8 per cent a year and a greater role for the private sector," SPA reported.

It said priorities include diversifying the economy, reducing reliance on oil as a revenue source and stepping up exploration and production of mineral resources.

It would work to boost confidence in its dollar-linked rival currency to attract foreign and domestic capital.

It also wants to see more Saudi nationals in the workforce. Saudi Arabia's 17 million population includes six million foreigners. Half of all Saudis are under the age of 15.

SPA did not publish the plan's financial volume figures, but it said the plan sees gross domestic product (GDP) growing by an aver-

age 3.8 per cent per year at constant prices, up from the 3.2 per cent target in the previous plan.

One economist in Riyadh said estimates for the previous plan showed actual GDP rose on average by 4.2 per cent per year.

"During the first years of the (fifth) plan, we had fairly high growth rates. But during the last years, 1993 and 1994, we had a fairly slow growth rate," he told Reuters.

There were no official figures for real GDP growth.

Private sector and government investment are slated to rise 4.9 per cent and 19 per cent annually, SPA said. No comparative figures were immediately available for the previous plan.

SPA said refining and petrochemicals are seen rising in

1995-2000 an average of 3.9 and 8.3 per cent respectively.

"In foreign trade and balance of payments, the plan aims to decrease the current account deficit... and achieve an average growth of 12 per cent in the value of non-oil exports," it said.

SPA said gross capital formation would rise 8.5 per cent, "raising the contribution of investment in GDP from 15.5 per cent in the beginning of the plan to 19 per cent at the end of it."

Non-oil GDP was expected to grow an average 3.6 per cent, double the rate achieved during the fifth plan, SPA said.

The productive sector was forecast to grow 4.2 per cent in the new plan and services 4.4 per cent. Agriculture was to grow 3.1 per cent, lower

than the previous plan target of seven.

Industry was expected to rise 4.9 per cent, compared with the targeted growth rate of 7.8 per cent in the fifth five-year plan.

Construction, minerals and utilities were also targeted to grow at a more rapid pace of four, nine, and 5.5 per cent respectively compared to targets in the previous plan.

The plan set a target of 24 billion riyals (\$6.4 billion) of soft loans from the kingdom's special credit banks in the five years to the year 2000.

Official figures show a total of 20.8 billion riyals (\$5.5 billion) was disbursed in the four years to 1994 by the four institutions that charge low or no interest on their loans, indicating little change in their overall lending.

## Kuwait cabinet approves bad debt plan

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwaiti government, in a move likely to face tough opposition in parliament, said it approved on Wednesday a bill altering repayment terms for \$20 billion in bad debt to try to solve the economy's thorniest problem.

The cabinet said it had sent the bill to the opposition-dominated National Assembly for debate to try to strengthen the economy and collect the longstanding debt owed by 10,000 individuals and companies at the lowest cost to state funds.

The bill has not been published but newspapers have said it softens the existing repayment terms following protests from wealthy debtors that the current terms are too strict.

"The proposed amendments aim to serve the public interest, support and stimulate the economy, and provide a practical opportunity to allow the state to collect the debt at the lowest cost possible," a cabinet statement said.

The debt derives partly from the 1982 crash of an unofficial stock exchange used by all sectors of society and partly from commercial losses aggravated by Iraq's 1990-91 occupation.

The debt is owed to the government, which bought out commercial banks' hold-

ings of the dubious loans in 1992. An official list of borrowers has never been published but they are believed to include leading merchants and government officials.

To become law, the bill must be approved by parliament, and many opposition MPs have said they will oppose any attempt to soften the existing repayment law passed in August 1993.

The cabinet did not say whether its economic committee, which has been studying the bill since it was first proposed by the government a month ago, had made any changes to the draft.

Debtors have said implementation of the existing terms would cause them to make a rapid sale of assets to fund repayments, causing a disastrous plunge in property and stock values.

Others say they would like to opt for the generous forgiveness available under an early settlement option, but do not have funds readily available to make the early

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Study your monetary status well and do whatever is needed for improvement today. Analyse every bit of information you get.

**Taurus:** (April 20 to May 20) Be practical in handling personal manners and think before you reach any definite decisions. Avoid accidents.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Look into right sources for the data you need and then apply it to improve present conditions. Take no risks with loved ones.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Study your personal desires and find the right and best way to gain them. Take some time to be alone today.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You can handle outside matters very well, provided you are tactful with bigwigs today. Do nothing to ruin your credit.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You want to run off to some new place or activity today, but important duties would suffer thereby. Be happy at home tonight.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) You think you can handle some financial affairs and thereby get out of the red today, but it could make matters worse.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have a chance to get fine arrangements made in the outside world and you should not permit family to interfere.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) You have tasks to do which require your careful attention since carelessness could cost you today with no progress.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You want to put across some fine talents. Although your ideas work well this morning, be careful this afternoon.

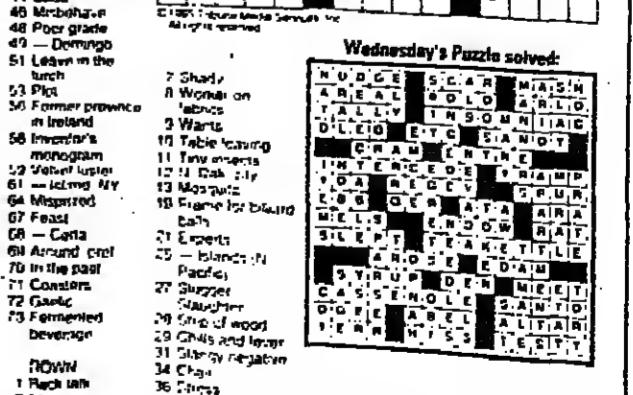
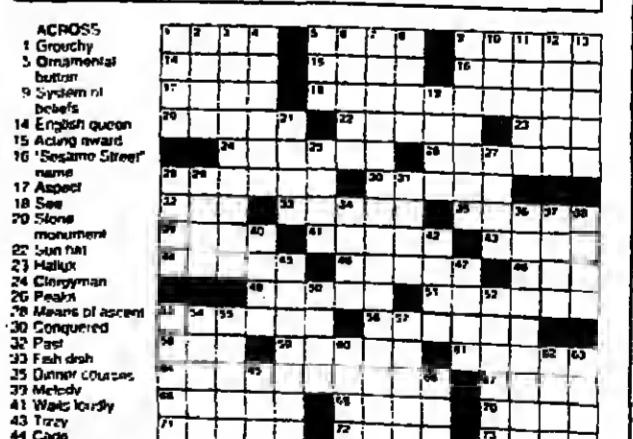
**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have to have the cooperation of loved ones for whatever you have in mind concerning family interests.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Listen to the questions of others, but don't make any definite replies as yet until you have given them more thought.

Birthstone of July: Ruby — Tiger's Eye

## THE Daily Crossword

by Don Johnson



Wednesday's Puzzle solved:

1. Judge 2. Grouchy 3. Ornamental 4. Beliefs 5. System 6. Beliefs 7. English queen 8. French queen 9. Queen 10. Queen 11. Queen 12. Queen 13. Queen 14. Queen 15. Queen 16. Queen 17. Queen 18. Queen 19. Queen 20. Queen 21. Queen 22. Queen 23. Queen 24. Queen 25. Queen 26. Queen 27. Queen 28. Queen 29. Queen 30. Queen 31. Queen 32. Queen 33. Queen 34. Queen 35. Queen 36. Queen 37. Queen 38. Queen 39. Queen 40. Queen 41. Queen 42. Queen 43. Queen 44. Queen 45. Queen 46. Queen 47. Queen 48. Queen 49. Queen 50. Queen 51. Queen 52. Queen 53. Queen 54. Queen 55. Queen 56. Queen 57. Queen 58. Queen 59. Queen 60. Queen 61. Queen 62. Queen 63. Queen 64. Queen 65. Queen 66. Queen 67. Queen 68. Queen 69. Queen 70. Queen 71. Queen 72. Queen 73. Queen 74. Queen 75. Queen 76. Queen 77. Queen 78. Queen 79. Queen 80. Queen 81. Queen 82. Queen 83. Queen 84. Queen 85. Queen 86. Queen 87. Queen 88. Queen 89. Queen 90. Queen 91. Queen 92. Queen 93. Queen 94. Queen 95. Queen 96. Queen 97. Queen 98. 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# Business & Finance

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1995 9

**Business Daily Beat**  
A review of economic news from the Arabic press

## Civil servants total 137,000

Peas. totalling 137,000, work in 85 ministries, departments and corporations. President of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Abdullah Ulayyan said. Mr. Ulayyan said 60 per cent of the civil servants work in two ministries, which are the ministries of education and health. He said 40 per cent of civil servants work in Amman Governorate, 15 per cent in Irbid Governorate, nine per cent in Zarqa Governorate, eight per cent in each of the Balqa and Karak governorates, five per cent in each of Jerash and Ajloun governorates and one per cent in each of Madaba and Aqaba governorates. Mr. Ulayyan said women account for 31 per cent of the total government work force. The percentage of female workers is highest in the Ministry of Education where it stands at 55 per cent, he said. The CSC president said the number of job applicants registered at the commission totals 108,000, of whom 33,000 are holders of university degrees and 62,000 are holders of two-year community college diplomas (Al Ra'i).

\*\* Assistant governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBI) Ahmad Abdul Fattah said the process of preparing a new law on monitoring the work of banks operating in Jordan, including branches of foreign ones, is in its final stages. Mr. Abdul Fattah said the new law aims to boost the role of the Central Bank in monitoring the performance of banks as part of measures taken by the Kingdom to adopt free economy policies and implement the economic reform programme. He said the CBI was contemplating issuing a decision calling on branches of foreign banks operating in the Kingdom to raise their capital to JD 10 million instead of JD 5 million. This decision, he said, follows one issued by the Central Bank ordering local banks to raise their capital to more than JD 20 million before the end of 1995 (Al Aswaq).

\*\* Recent statements by Minister of Finance Basel Jardaneh denying the government intends to reduce customs duties on cars will have little or no effect on the passenger car market, car dealers said. They said the recession in car market was due mainly to high prices of cars, resulting from the high customs duties and other tariffs, which makes prices beyond the reach of ordinary people. They said rumours spreading every now and then about imminent reductions in tariffs have their negative influence on their business and the statements by Mr. Jardaneh will have little effect on boosting their sales since citizens already expect reductions in customs duties before the end of the year. Nevertheless, one car dealer asserted that there was improvement in his business as soon as the minister made his statement (Al Aswaq).

## Smith Corona files for bankruptcy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Time was, writing meant typewriting. Words like these — written on a television screen — were composed on the solid keyboard, banged noisily onto a piece of paper, and when they weren't quite right, ripped out and scraped when the paragraphs just didn't work.

It's easier and faster with the word processor, a reality that pushed the last big-name American typewriter manufacturer, Smith Corona, into bankruptcy on Wednesday.

On the computer keyboard, a touch makes letters and then words, no need to push hard. Another touch changes them, still another erases them all without a trace, usually on purpose.

Need to change paper, no need to turn fingers icy blue or black while changing a ribbon. The computer takes care of all that, and it speeds the old ways couldn't approach.

But at a cost.

There was a romance about the typewriter, the clattering keys, the yellow Western Union paper on which travelling reporters would bang out a story and have it telegraphed home. "Western," a newsmen would shout when his story was ready, and a messenger would run it to the telegrapher.

Twenty years ago, lightweight portable typewriters in brief, zippered cases were standard equipment for travelling U.S. reporters. Climb aboard a campaign bus or chartered airplane and everybody had one.

And for all the speed and efficiency of the word processor, there was a discipline in writing the old fashioned way, on paper. The words inked there had a permanence about them and, to memory at least, were chosen with more care for the fact that they weren't easily changed. Indeed, since they had to be telegraphed or dictated over the telephone — to a typist — to make their way to a news editing desk, there also tended to be more selectivity, fewer words.

There also was something personal about the typewriter as a tool. Ernie Pyle's typewriter, the black portable on which he wrote columns about World War II Git, is on display in an exhibit at the National Archives.

Financial Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Aramco Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 5/22/95	Tokyo Close Date 5/22/95
Sterling Pound	1.5965	1.5944**
Deutsche Mark	1.3795	1.3829
Swiss Franc	1.7448	1.7489**
French Franc	4.8555	4.8343**
Japanese Yen	85.80	85.05
European Currency Unit	1.3372	1.3340**

\* USD for STG \*\* European Opening & 1000 a.m. GMT

\*\* Eurodollar Interest Rates Date: 6/7/1995

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.87	5.75	5.68	5.62
Sterling Pound	6.43	6.62	6.75	7.12
Deutsche Mark	4.37	4.37	4.37	4.50
Swiss Franc	2.75	2.87	2.93	3.12
French Franc	6.70	6.48	6.31	6.28
Japanese Yen	1.06	0.93	0.87	0.81
European Currency Unit	5.96	5.96	6.13	6.25

Interest rate for market exceeding U.S. Dollar 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 6/7/1995

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6920	0.6940
Sterling Pound	1.1025	1.1080
Deutsche Mark	0.5007	0.5032
Swiss Franc	0.6050	0.6060
French Franc	0.1431	0.1438
Japanese Yen	0.8158	0.8179
Dutch Guilder	0.4466	0.4490
Swedish Krona	0.6000	0.6000
Italian Lira	0.0427	0.0429
Belgian Franc	0.6000	0.6000

\* Per 100

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8190	1.8320
Lebanese Lira	0.041965	0.042965
Saudi Riyal	0.1442	0.1459
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3000	2.3620
Qatari Riyal	0.1862	0.1902
Egyptian Pound	0.1900	0.2160
Oman Riyal	1.7880	1.7970
UAE Dirham	0.1878	0.1890
Greek Drachma	0.2765	0.3275
Cypriot Pound	1.5045	1.5965

\* Per 100

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3658/68	Canadian dollar
	1.3866/76	Deutschmarks
	1.5530/40	Dutch guilders
	1.1506/16	Swiss francs
	28.50/54	Belgian francs
	4.8370/20	French francs
	1608.8/3.8	Italian lire
	86.06/15	Japanese yen
	7.2225/25	Swedish crowns
	6.1640/90	Norwegian crowns
	5.4078/28	Danish crowns
One sterling	1.5950/60	
One ounce of gold	\$384.75/385.05	

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET  
HOUSING BANK CENTER - AMMAN - JORDAN  
TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607175  
ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (01/07/1995 - 05/07/1995)  
WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ARAB BANK PIC	408,210	222.000	218.500
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	133,733	4.620	4.420
RAID OF JORDAN	16,687	3.270	3.270
RIDGE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	3,378	1.350	1.330
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	19,777	2.560	2.540
THE HOUSING BANK	223,487	8.010	8.010
JORDAN EQUITY BANK	35,526	2.830	2.830
JORDAN GULF BANK	28,858	1.320	1.320
ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	988	4.000	4.000
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	86,748	3.810	3.760
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	31,489	4.590	4.520
WISHLAND BANK	18,922	3.290	3.250
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	28,290	4.350	4.250
BRITISH SAVING & INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	11,412	3.450	3.700
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	118,740	1.160	1.120
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	100,681	1.730	1.610

BANKS SECTOR

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
	1247210	INDEX NUMBER: 180.87	

CHANGE -1.24%

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN INSURANCE	17,405	3.260	3.240
MIDDLE EAST INSURANCE	192,645	3.280	3.280
ARABIC SEAS INSURANCE	960	1.900	1.520
JORDANIAN INSURANCE	1,050	4.700	4.200
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	15,514	2.640	2.440
JORDAN INSURANCE & REINSURANCE	25,004	3.100	3.100
SOUL LAND INSURANCE	3,342	2.700	2.630
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	3,120	2.600	2.600
JORDAN GULF INSURANCE	480	3.370	3.200
THE NATIONAL ARABIC INSURANCE	5,562	3.050	3.100
AL-NASS AL-ARABI INSURANCE	1,473	4.400	4.400

CHANGE -0.04%

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE



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## Sampras wins centrecourt shoot-out

LONDON (AFP) — Pete Sampras, bidding to become the first player since Bjorn Borg to win Wimbledon three years running, reached the final gain on Friday when he defeated big-serving Goran Ivanisevic 7-6 (9-7), 4-6, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 in a two-and-a-half hour centre-court shoot-out.

The 23-year-old American, who beat the 6ft 4in (1m 94) Croatian in last year's final, now faces either compatriot and world number-one Andre Agassi or three-times champion Boris Becker for the title on Sunday.

Ivanisevic thumped down 38 aces (the match record at Wimbledon is 44) against 21 from Sampras — but it was not enough.

And ironically it was his service which eventually let him down.

Sampras, who recently won his 33rd title when he triumphed at Queens, looked extremely confident as he came out for the second set. But he quickly found himself under intense pressure from the Croatian's tremendous serving.

Ivanisevic, with the ace count scoreboards working overtime, didn't drop a single point on his service games and the packed crowd came to life when he broke Sampras for the first time in the tenth game to level at one set all.

Sampras, winner of five Grand Slam titles but who lost his number-one status to Andre Agassi in April after being the world's top-ranked player for 101 weeks, came under renewed pressure when he dropped his serve again in the seventh game of the fourth-set.

But in the fifth, Ivanisevic,



Pete Sampras

who has reached six semi-finals so far this year but who failed to add to his tally of 11 career titles, again failed to hold in his first service game.

Sampras quickly turned the screw and here was no way back for his opponent.

The defending champion has a special reason for retaining his title as he wants to

dedicate a third Wimbledon victory to his coach Tim Gullikson who was taken ill with a brain tumour at the Australian Open earlier this year.

"I was so unlucky today... probably I was born unlucky," lamented Ivanisevic over the number of net cords, misfits and disputed calls during the match.

"I started good. I played

good tennis and I think I should have won in three sets.

"But so many little things decided the match — small mistakes, a little bit of luck..."

"I knew he could not play as well as he did last year. But he didn't do too much today and I missed a lot of volleys."

## Steffi vs. Arantxa — again in final

WIMBLEDON (AP) — Another women's final, another matchup between — who else? — Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Of the 33 matches they have played against each other, 22 have been in finals — including their last 13 meetings.

But Graf and Sanchez Vicario will face each other Saturday where they never have before: in the championship match at Wimbledon.

Graf, a five-time Wimbledon champion, reached her seventh final with a 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 victory Thursday over Jana Novotna.

Sanchez Vicario made it to her first Wimbledon final with a 6-3, 6-7 (7-5), 6-1, triumph over defending champion and fellow Spaniard Conchita Martinez.

Graf is the top seed and world's top-ranked player; Sanchez Vicario is No. 2 in the seedings and rankings. Win or lose Saturday, Graf is guaranteed of keeping the No. 1 spot.

Graf has a 25-8 edge in career meetings against Sanchez Vicario, but they have split their last six matches.

In their last meeting, Graf beat Sanchez at the French Open last month for her 16th Grand Slam title.

The two met once before at Wimbledon, with Graf winning in straight sets in the 1989 quarterfinals.

"I'm not going to underestimate her at all," Graf said. "She's been coming through to the finals impressively. One thing I'm not going to do is feel I'm the absolute favourite. I don't feel like that all right now."

But the London bookmakers do so. They installed Graf



Jana Novotna

as a heavy 1-3 favourite, with the Spaniard at 9-4.

Sanchez Vicario has won three Grand Slam titles, the French Open in 1989 and 1994 and last year's U.S. Open.

But until this year, she had failed to progress past the quarterfinals at Wimbledon in eight appearances.

"It's a dream come true for me," she said. "After winning the French Open, what I wanted to do is play my first final at Wimbledon. My goal was to pass the quarterfinals. I have nothing to lose. Now I just want to see if I can win more. It's every player's dream, to win here on Centre Court."

Always known as a great retriever and defensive player, Sanchez Vicario has adapted her game and her approach for the faster play on grass.

"My attitude is different," she said. "I'm having much more fun on the grass. I mean I'm the No. 1 player in the world in doubles so I believe I can go to the net and do

well there. The way I'm thinking on grass now is completely different."

"If they met today, Steffi would be the winner, but on Saturday it could be a different story," she said. "I think who will be a little more aggressive will win."

**Biographies of Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario who contest the women's final at the Wimbledon championships on Saturday:**

**Steffi Graf (Germany)**

**Age: 26**

**Seeded: One**

**Career official prize money: \$15.58 million**

**Singles titles: Three Grand Slam titles, 22 overall**

**Coach: Gabriel Uri**

**Grand Slam Record: Won the French Open in 1988, 1994, U.S. Open in 1994**

**Path to final: Best Katarina Stenstrom (Slovakia) 6-2, 6-1; Mana Endo (Japan) 7-5, 6-2; Zina Garrison-Jackson 6-1, 6-2; Anke Huber 7-5, 6-4; Brenda Strozak-McCarthy 6-4, 7-6; Conchita Martinez 6-3, 6-7, 6-1.**

**Playing style: Right-handed. Solid all-round baseline game and excellent mobility around court. Gritty and determined player who will never surrender before the bitter end.**

**Amanda Coetzer (South Africa) 6-3, 7-5; Kristie Boogaart (Netherlands) 6-1, 6-0; Ines Gorrochategui (Argentina) 6-0, 6-1; Mary Joe Fernandez (U.S.) 6-3, 6-0; Jana Novotna 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.**

**Playing style: Right-handed. Despite injury-disrupted season, she remains undefeated on any surface this year. One of the quickest and strongest players on tour.**

**Relies heavily on her powerful forehand and a consistent sliced backhand. Has won at least one Grand Slam title in every season since 1987. Her lack of success last year prompted suggestions she might be losing interest in tennis but she bounced back to win French Open and reclaim the world number one slot in Paris.**

**Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)**

**At one kilometre from the finish I chose to s**

**Behind Abdou. "With 500 metres to go, I passed him and it was really something**

**Heinz Gunthardt (Grand Slam Record: Won the Australian Open in 1988, 1989, 1990, 1994, the French Open in 1987, 1988, 1993, 1995; Wimbledon in 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1993, the U.S. Open in 1988, 1989, 1993.**

**Path to final: Beat Martina Hingis (Switzerland) 6-3, 6-1.**

**Playing style: Right-handed. Solid all-round baseline game and excellent mobility around court. Gritty and determined player who will never surrender before the bitter end.**

**Romania**

**BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's**

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**Selby is to announce he**

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**and is expected**

**his first Grand Sl**

**in 1996 at the U**

**in August.**

**His first match will be**

**an exhibition with**

**Maria Sharapova in**

**Alma City on July 2**

**though it is uncertain**

**whether she will play an**

**even before the open**

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**ANNEX**

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## FOR SALE

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## GOREN BRIDGE

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**Blijlevens wins longest stage**

DUNKERQUE, France (AP) — Dutch cyclist Jeroen Blijlevens may have known something big was about to happen. He called home before the tour de France started and told his mother "come to the tour. I'm going to win a stage."

Mother Blijlevens stayed home while her 23-year-old son took the fifth stage of the tour de France Thursday, beating the other top-name sprinters in a race to the finish.

Maybe mom will listen to Jeroen next time.

Blijlevens edged ahead of Slovian Jan Svorak and German Erik Zabel at the finish with Mario Cipollini of Italy, already the winner of two stages, and Djamilidine Abdoujaparov of Uzbekistan, also trailing.

"At one kilometre from the finish, I chose to stay right behind Abdou," Blijlevens said. "With 300 metres to go, I passed him and it was really something to also beat Cipollini."

Italy's Ivan Gotti stayed ahead of his teammate Bjarne Riis of Denmark by a second in the overall standings as the riders prepare to enter Belgium on Friday.

The sixth stage Friday goes from Dunkerque to Charleroi, Belgium, 202 kilometres.

Gotti, with no major victories to his credit, spent his full day in the yellow Jersey by staying out of trouble as did the favourites.

Miguel Indurain, seeking his fifth consecutive victory in the tour, Tony Rominger and Yevgeny Berzin of Russia, all finished in the same time and lost nothing in the overall standings to Gotti.

**How the others fared —****Tour de France**

The only change among the top 15 in the overall standings was with Laurent Jalabert of France, who lost the overall lead and 50 seconds to Gotti on Wednesday after a fall. The Frenchman started to chip away by gaining six bonus seconds in intermediate sprints.

Jalabert stayed eighth but is now 34 seconds away from the lead after the longest stage of this year's tour, 261 kilometres (162 miles) from Fecamp to Dunkerque in northwest France.

Two top riders had to drop out. Belgian champion Wim Nelissen and Italian Fabio Baldato, the winner of the first stage, withdrew from the race, victims of the fall on Wednesday that cost Jalabert the lead.

**Tour de France glance**

A quick look at Thursday's stage of the Tour de France:

**Stage —** The fifth stage from Fecamp to Dunkerque, 261 kilometres (162 miles), the longest stage of this year's tour.

**Winner —** Dutch rider Jeroen Blijlevens won in

another sprint finish.

**Yellow Jersey —** Ivan Gotti of Italy held onto his one-second lead over teammate Bjarne Riis of Denmark.

**How the others fared —**

**Baggio joins AC Milan**

MILAN (AP) — Roberto Baggio joined AC Milan in the most expensive transfer in the Italian League this year, completing the long-rumoured deal for an estimated 31 billion lire (\$19.3 million).

The transfer fee eclipsed that paid by Parma, which spent \$10.5 million for Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov in a transfer from Spain's FC Barcelona.

The deal was confirmed by both AC Milan and Juventus, which parted with the 28-year-old Italian international striker after five seasons because of a contract dispute.

The 1993 European Player of the Year and a key figure in Italy's drive to last year's World Cup final, Baggio refused to take a 50 per cent cut that would have reduced his salary to about \$1 million.

According to sources at AC Milan, which is owned by former premier and media magnate Silvio Berlusconi, Baggio will get about \$2.18 million lire a year, for three years, while La Juve will receive about 20 billion lire (\$12.5 million) from the transfer over two years.

Baggio's transfer is nearly double the \$11.5 million Juventus paid to get him from Fiorentina in 1990, then a world record. However, it now falls far short of the current world record of about \$25 million, paid by AC Milan for Guiniguig Lamenti to get him from Torino in 1992.

Juventus, which is owned by the Agnelli family of auto makers, wished Baggio success in a farewell message, noting he was going to play "with one of the most tried and successful world clubs."

Although benched by a knee injury for nearly three months, Baggio was instrumental in Juventus' league and Italian Cup titles this past season, in which it also reached the UEFA Cup final only to lose to Parma.

Called the Raphael of soccer fields by Juventus club owner Giovanni Agnelli, Baggio will join an AC Milan that also has recently acquired Nigerian-born striker George Weah and Portuguese forward Paulo Futre.

The trio will team with other internationals such as Montenegrin forward Dejan Savicevic, French midfielder Marcel Desailly and Italians Franco Baresi, Paolo Maldini and Demetrio Albertini.

After the official announcement of his transfer, Baggio traveled to Milan to undergo medical examinations and discuss details of his personal contract.

In a recent television interview Baggio ruled out possible problems of coexistence with Savicevic.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL****Jordan again defeat Al Jala'**

By Aleen Bannayan

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's women's national basketball team Thursday scored their victory over Syrian champions Al Jala' 45-37 in the third of a four-match series organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

The win was important for the Jordanian team who now have less than two weeks to prepare for the Asian Championship which will be held in Shizuoka, Japan July 23-30.

Syrian champions Al Jala' were due to play their last match late Friday evening. (The match will be covered Sunday). Al Jala' had won the first match 69-51, but the Jordanian team came back for a convincing 54-37 victory in the second match.

Thursday's match at Al Orthodox proved that the Kingdom's team were improving with every match, and that all that was needed was match practice in order to best adapt to one another's play taking into account that the team was only reorganized earlier this year after a 12-year absence from the basketball scene.

Jordan's Jumana Salti was again the match's top scorer with 17 points. (She had 28 points in the first match and 19 in the second). Tala Al Mauje had 10 and Jihan Abdunour 7. Jordan missed the efforts of Suhair Makus who suffered a slight injury in the first match.

Al Jala's top players were held to low scoring as Joel Aboushi had 9, Edo Mouradian 8, Karla Maghamez and Miriam Abdunour 7.

Al Jala' took a big lead at the beginning of the first half at 9-2 and 11-4 with Edo Mouradian, Joel Aboushi and Karla Maghamez scoring for the Syrian team.

Jordan's Tala Al Mauje, who was unsuccessful in the first two matches, netted eight points together with



Jordan's Tala Al Mauje #12 goes for a jump ball (File photo)

Jihan Abdunour while Hina Ghouri rebounded as Jordan caught up and took the lead 18-15 in the 17th minute.

Jordan won the first half 24-18.

At the beginning of the second half, Al Jala' applied a press defence which caused many turnovers and allowed them to score by Abdunour and Miriam Abdunour 7.

The Kingdom's team led 35-30 before Al Jala scored to reduce the gap to 35-34. However, the concerted efforts of playmakers Hala Muheisen and the team's star centre Jumana Salti enabled Jordan to keep the lead and win the match 45-37.

Although happy with the

win, Jordan's coach Fadi Sabbagh seemed unsatisfied with the team's preparations: "We are improving with every match. However we had requested at least 10-16 matches prior to the Asian Championship and the team ended up with only four."

The Jordanian team was due to have played another four matches against a Ukrainian team. However, citing a cast-strapped budget, the JBF cancelled the matches earlier last week.

Prior to their two losses against the national team the Syrian champions had a 3-0 record over Jordanian teams. They beat Jordan's 1994 champions Al Jazireh twice in Aleppo early last

year and again in July '94 when they finished second behind Lebanon's Homem-men in Al Jazireh's five-team regional championship.

Al Jala' currently lead the standings in the Syrian League and will play a three-round playoff against titleholders Al Hornah and Al Otrouba clubs starting July 19.

Five of Al Jala's players are on the Syrian national team including Al Yamout's powerful centre Edo Mouradian.

Other national team players include Karin and Miriam Abdunour, Karla Maghamez, Dina Abdul Samad and Joel Aboushi. Other players are Reem Shakkour, Nour Tarabishi, Tama Ribat, Aileen Khakaz, Regina Magdesi and Wa'ed Karroum.

The Kingdom's team includes Rana Husseini, Tala Al Mauje, Jumana Salti, Hala Muheisen, Shuhair Makus, Andeira Qasseh, Tetiana Qardan, Hind Ghouri, Sirsa Naghaway, Dima Shaddeed, Zein Sha'sha, Rania Al Dajani and Jihan Abdunour.

NBA superstar shows up at Orthodox.

Prior to the women's match NBA superstar Hakeem 'the dream' Olajuwon showed up for the youth Under-18 team's practice where over 2000 basketball fans had crowded the court after hearing of his last minute plans.

Now on a brief visit on his way to Umra pilgrimage, Olajuwon had a brief warmup with the youth team who will be leaving for the World Championship Sunday. He then played a match for a few minutes, but failed to captivate his fans who were eager to see some slam dunks and action-packed moves.

Olaajuwon is the NBA's Most Valuable Player in the past two seasons as he led his team, the Houston Rockets, to two consecutive NBA championship titles.

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**ANNONCE**

Les Français résident ou de passage en Jordanie sont cordialement invités au buffet-dansant que donnera l'Ambassadeur de France à l'occasion de la Fête Nationale, Le Vendredi 14 Juillet à partir de 21h 00, à la Résidence de France. Les personnes n'ayant pas reçu leur invitation sont priées de se présenter au Consulat, du dimanche au Jeudi, munis d'une pièce d'identité, afin de la retirer. Celle-ci sera demandée à l'entrée. Une tenue décontractée — mais correcte — est recommandée pour cette occasion.

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## Sarajevo demands effective action by reaction force

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — A senior Bosnian official has challenged the U.N. to make its aid mission effective or pull out as peacekeepers outlined limits on Friday on the use of their new rapid reaction force (RRF).

"If you (the U.N.) are not going to be effective in carrying out your mission, then I think you should consider the option of leaving," Foreign Minister Muhamed Saric said in Washington.

Withdrawal of the 22,000-strong mission is increasingly regarded as an option as Bosnian Serbs cripple aid operations and the Bosnian government fights to lift the siege of Sarajevo.

Mediator Carl Bildt said peace prospects were bleak after talks with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic on Thursday.

U.N. sources said he could travel to Belgrade on Friday to meet Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, who is seen as the key to persuading the Bosnian Serbs to lift their veto on a big power peace plan.

The 10,000-man RRF has become enveloped in confusion since European governments ordered its creation in June to give U.N. peacekeepers a combat arm.

The RRF is still not fully deployed, and the bureaucratic and political forces paralyzing the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia have been hedging it too with restrictions.

U.N. officials admitted on Thursday that U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi would have to authorize any potential combat mission by the reaction force.

Mr. Akashi, and avowed opponent of force, is widely blamed by U.N. military commanders for thwarting their efforts to tackle the Serbs head-on when they flout the U.N.

Officials said on Friday that it was unlikely the RRF's extra firepower would be used to deter Serb bombard-

ment of civilian areas or to force aid across Serb territory to beleaguered Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia.

"It's an extra dose of morphine for dying patient," one source said in Sarajevo.

"It will bring short-term relief but won't solve a thing unless there's a political breakthrough."

Sarajevo Radio said five civilians were wounded Thursday and early Friday in a Serb attack on the eastern enclave, Zepa, and that 105 detonations were recorded overnight in the area of Velika Kladusa, north of Bihać.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that the first food convoy since May 20 had reached the eastern Muslim enclave of Gorazde, where 56,000 residents "are in an extremely desperate situation."

The nine-truck convoy brought 78 tonnes of food, and another seven-truck convoy was trying to get in with 46 tonnes. But the people of Gorazde need 772 tonnes per month, the UNHCR said.

Gorazde, Bihać, Zepa, Srebrenica, Tuzla and Sarajevo were declared U.N. protected "safe zones" in 1993. But the United Nations has had difficulty getting humanitarian aid to the civilians within the enclaves, and has been unable to prevent Serbs from attacking them or government forces from using them as bases for attacks against the Serbs.

A shell hit Hana Djore, her husband, Bozo, and their daughter Magdalena as a French water truck pulled up and started its motor to pump water. The girl died instantly; her parents died later at a hospital.

The Bosnian Health Ministry said two other children were among the dead, and 18 civilians were wounded in the Sarajevo enclave, where people must decide daily whether to hide in their cellars, hungry and thirsty, or risk their lives to venture out for water and ever scarcer food.

On Thursday, an attack by

rebel Serbs on government-held Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia was the fiercest since it was declared a U.N. "safe area" two years ago. Five civilians were killed and 19 were wounded, said Sarajevo state-run radio. The enclave was under shelling again Friday.

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WARES FOR WAGES: A Ukrainian woman sells pots, pans and kettles to drivers outside the Novomoskovsky plant in the Dnepropetrovsky region of Ukraine. Many workers at

Ukrainian plants receive factory production items instead of a regular salary because of the economic crisis in the country (AFP photo)

## U.N. must seal biological file — Iraq

DUBAI (Agencies) — The United Nations must confirm the elimination of Iraq's biological arms programme before Baghdad agrees to the destruction of other weapons parts, Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Al Sahaf said Friday.

"Once this (biological) file is closed, we will be ready to examine with UNSCOM a list of material to be destroyed," said Mr. Sahaf, quoted in the Arabic newspaper Al Hayat from New York.

Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) on disarming post-war Iraq, said in a letter to Baghdad on Wednesday that Baghdad was refusing to let UNSCOM to close the file "before the end of August."

Iraq has admitted for the first time that it developed an offensive biological weapons programme, Mr. Ekeus said in his letter to the Security Council.

The former Swedish diplomat said Baghdad pledged to provide by the end of the month "a full, final and complete disclosure of all aspects of the past biological weapons programme."

UNSCOM says Baghdad has yet to account for 17 tonnes of growth culture.

Mr. Al Sahaf said the

biological programme was halted in 1990 before the "outbreak of the Gulf war which drove its troops out of Kuwait," because stocking these agents turned out to be very dangerous.

The Security Council imposed crippling sanctions on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Lifting the oil embargo depends on Iraq's compliance with U.N. resolutions to eliminate its nuclear, chemical and biological arms programmes as well as ballistic missiles with a range of more than 150 kilometres.

Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz vowed Thursday his country would conform to U.N. resolutions and hoped UNSCOM would soon confirm that Baghdad had destroyed its weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Ekeus said Iraq, in an

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S. embargo boosted Iran, Rafsanjani says

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said on Friday that the U.S. embargo against Iran had failed and the country's economy and national unity had improved under American pressure.

"It is no exaggeration if we say that our economy is in better shape after the U.S. embargo than... before," Mr. Rafsanjani said at a mass prayer broadcast live on Tehran Radio.

"Our national unity which the U.S. aimed to destroy is stronger now. People saw... that a superpower had sharpened its sword to weaken our economy, so everybody became ready to defend," he said in reference to the ban imposed in June by President Bill Clinton on United States trade and investment with Iran.

"Internationally only Israel supported the embargo... and many countries officially opposed it," Mr. Rafsanjani said to the cheers of the crowd gathered under the hot summer sun at Tehran University.

"Americans either do not really know, which is not unlikely since their information is

distorted, or they just pretend," he added, giving examples of development projects he said were being carried out at a high pace despite the sanctions.

Mr. Rafsanjani said a majority of Washington's policy on Iran was to cover up American domestic problems by concentrating on foreign conflicts, but it had also failed to achieve that.

"We hope that in the future the U.S. would give up such adventurism," he said.

Mr. Rafsanjani also accused the United States of seeking to block oil and gas deals between Iran and its neighbours.

Washington banned U.S. companies from extending loans to Turkmenistan if the Central Asian country decided to import its natural gas to Europe through Iran, he charged.

"This is shameful. What kind of interference is that? The United States treats other countries like its lackeys and dictates to them," he said. "But such bullying no longer works. The world is more aware today."

"Did you plant any evidence to this case?" Mr. Fitzgerald asked Mr. Anticic.

"No," Mr. Anticic re-

plied.

"Did you plant any evidence on any defendants?" the prosecutor asked.

"No," the agent said.

"Did you destroy any evidence?"

"No."

"As you sit here today, do you believe that Emad Salem blew up the World Trade Centre?" Mr. Fitzgerald asked.

"Absolutely not," Mr. Anticic answered.

The last question came in response to a defense lawyer who raised the possibility that the informant might have had a role in the February 1993 blast.

Three hours after the explosion that killed six people and injured more than 1,000, Mr. Salem checked into a Manhattan hotel complaining of dizziness and an ear problem, testimony has shown.

Transcripts of recordings secretly made by Mr. Salem show that he bragged to FBI agents after the blast that he had warned them beforehand that the bombing was likely.

Mr. Salem infiltrated a suspected group in 1991 and supplied the FBI with information about them until July 1992.

Ambulances, fire engine obey dog's call

TOKYO (AP) — Two ambulances and a fire engine have rushed to a Tokyo condominium after receiving an emergency call, only to find a dog sitting in front of a telephone with a receiver off, dailies said Friday. "We've never had such a case before," a Tokyo Fire Department official was quoted as saying by the Yomiuri Shimbun.

Mr. Sharma in his application described himself as a resident of Madras and said he was not present in New Delhi on Sunday night when the body of his wife was stuffed into the oven for a clandestine cremation, Mr. Sharma's lawyer, Anantha Naraina, said. He moved the bail petition by telephone to do so. He would not divulge the name of the caller or disclose Mr. Sharma's whereabouts.

The order preventing Mr. Sharma's arrest on murder charges would remain in force for two weeks, the court said.

Mr. Sharma's lawyer, Anantha Naraina, said he moved the bail petition by telephone to do so. He would not divulge the name of the caller or disclose Mr. Sharma's whereabouts.

The murder has sparked protests in New Delhi by women's groups and various political parties.

Indian "Bandit Queen" Phoolan Devi led a protest here Friday to demand the death penalty, but was stopped by police from marching on the prime minister's house, witnesses said.

## COLUMN

### Christo begins unwrapping Reichstag

BERLIN (R) — Workers began unwrapping the "wrapped Reichstag" Friday, removing the silvery cloth and blue cords that have covered Germany past the future parliament for the last two weeks. Officials estimated the art work by Bulgarian-born Christo and his wife Jeanne-Claude had drawn over five million viewers, more than the three million who came to see their wrapping of Paris' Pont Neuf Bridge in 1985. The artists were not on hand to see work crews start removing the draping, their spokesman said. "It would be too sad for them to see the end of their work." Professional climbers began unwrapping the building's interior courtyard and should be finished by Monday. They will also have to remove scaffolding that protected ornate exterior carvings, but no trace of the project will remain by July 23. The project capped more than 20 years of campaigning by Christo, who has become famous by encircling Florida islands in pink plastic and erecting thousands of blue and yellow umbrellas in Japan and California simultaneously. The artists footed the \$11 million bill themselves, hoping to recover their costs with spin-off prints and postcards.

### 4 injured in 1st San Fermín bull run

PAMPLONA, Spain (R) — Four men were injured two of them seriously, on the first day of bull running in the San Fermín Festival in Pamplona, northwest Spain. A 49-year-old Spaniard was gored on the side of the face by one of six bulls let loose to charge through the city's narrow streets, and an 18-year-old American was hit in the body. A Spaniard and a New Zealander were treated in hospital with minor injuries, but the riot was generally quick and clean. The bulls, led by hundreds of runners in traditional Basque costume of white tunics and red sashes, completed the 900-metre dash to the city's bullring in less than three minutes. The San Fermín Festival, which gained fame through Ernest Hemingway's novel *The Sun Also Rises*, continues for nine days with a bull run each morning.

### Gore's mother hospitalised after heart attack

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Pauline Gore, the 83-year-old mother of U.S. Vice President Al Gore, has suffered a heart attack and was hospitalised. Bill Hance, a hospital spokesman, said Mrs. Gore was conscious and in fair condition. She was brought to Vanderbilt Medical Centre about 12:30 a.m. (0430 GMT), he said. The vice president and his wife, Tipper Gore, arrived Wednesday morning from Washington to see Mrs. Gore, who was taken to the hospital from her home in Cartago, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) east of Nashville. Mrs. Gore, a lawyer, was one of the first female graduates of the Vanderbilt University Law School. She suffered a stroke two years ago that slightly damaged her peripheral vision.

### Venice leader plans Arab tour

AMMAN (R) — President Abdallah Saleh is expected to travel to Arab countries next week in a bid to promote Jordanian newspaper, an official newspaper, said the head of the delegation, the leader of the delegation of the regional development bank.

### Zeroual meets Iraqi minister

ALGIERS (AP) — Algeria's President Liamine Zeroual met Saturday with Iraqi Foreign Minister Shabib al-Khatib to get the United Nations Security Council to lift the embargo against Iraq.

### AMBULANCES, fire engine obey dog's call

TOKYO (AP) — Two ambulances and a fire engine have rushed to a Tokyo condominium after receiving an emergency call, only to find a dog sitting in front of a telephone with a receiver off, dailies said Friday. "We've never had such a case before," a Tokyo Fire Department official was quoted as saying by the Yomiuri Shimbun.

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The murder has sparked protests in New Delhi by women's groups and various political parties.

Indian "Bandit Queen" Phoolan Devi led a protest here Friday to demand the death penalty, but was stopped by police from marching on the prime minister's house, witnesses said.

The alleged involvement of Mr. Sharma and Keshav Kumar, a former member of the party's youth chapter of the party's youth

wing, is charged with murdering his wife Naina Saini, 29, and attempting to burn her body in the open-air tandoor oven of a downtown hotel restaurant.

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Congress president, has ordered a probe into reports that Mr. Sharma and his slain wife had close links with certain cabinet ministers.

Mr. Pereira said Mr. Sharma could face the death penalty if convicted of murdering his wife and described it as an "open-and-shut case."

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